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JOURNAL
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FIRST CONGRESS
OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES
OF AMERICA.

Third session.

Held at Richmond, Va., January 12, 1863, to May 1, 1863.

Fourth session.

Held at Richmond, Va., December 7, 1863, to February 17, 1864.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF
THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

FIRST CONGRESS, THIRD SESSION, JANUARY 12, 1863, TO MAY 1, 1863.

FIRST DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Burrows.

A letter from the Speaker having been read, stating that sickness in his family would require his temporary absence,

The Clerk proceeded to call the roll, and the following members answered to their names, viz:

Arrington, Ayer, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Davis, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

Present, 53.

No quorum being present,

Mr. Boyce moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Foote,

The Doorkeeper was directed to notify absent members who were in the city that the House was without a quorum, and request their attendance.

On motion of Mr. Boyce,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECOND DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Reed.

The Clerk proceeded to call the roll, and the following members answered to their names, viz:

Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark,

Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davis, Farrow, Foote, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Vest, and Villeré. Present, 54.

A quorum being present, Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the Honorable J. L. M. Curry, of Alabama, be, and is hereby, appointed Speaker pro tempore of the House of Representatives, to serve in that capacity during the absence of the Speaker ;

which was read and agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Boteler moved that a committee of three be appointed to inform Mr. Curry of his appointment as Speaker pro tempore.

The motion was agreed to.

The Clerk appointed as said committee Messrs. Boteler of Virginia, Clark of Georgia, and Swan of Tennessee.

Mr. Holt offered the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the Clerk inform the Senate that the House of Representatives, in the absence of the Speaker, the Honorable Thomas S. Bocock, has elected the Honorable J. L. M. Curry, a Representative from Alabama, Speaker pro tempore and is now ready to proceed to business ;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Holt also offered the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, to join such committee as may be appointed by the Senate, to wait on the President and inform him that the Congress of the Confederate States is in session, pursuant to adjournment, and ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to submit ;

which was read and agreed to.

The Chair appointed as the committee on the part of the House Messrs. Holt of Georgia, Sexton of Texas, and Goode of Virginia.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Surgeon-General, proposing to vaccinate members ; which was read and laid upon the table.

The Chair also laid before the House depositions in relation to the contested-election case of J. P. Johnson *vs.* A. H. Garland ; which were referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the House will now proceed to an allotment of seats according to the mode prescribed at the last session ;

which was read and, on motion of Mr. Foote, was laid upon the table.

On motion, leave of absence was granted to Messrs. De Jarnette, Wright of Georgia, Welsh, Bocock, and Freeman, and to Messrs. Lander and Ashe, until Tuesday next.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings ascertain and report to the House whether the Exchange Building can be obtained for the use of Congress, and upon what terms, and whether it will afford suitable accommodation for the two Houses, their officers, and committees ;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Curry introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal so much of an act to exempt certain persons from military duty, approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, as released from military service certain owners, agents, or overseers on plantations;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Curry also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the monthly pay of non-commissioned officers and privates in the Army;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hanly presented the claim of John A. Simpson for taking the Federal census in Fulton County, Ark.; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Gartrell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to continue in force an act authorizing the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read the first and second times and was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Gartrell also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the pay of each noncommissioned officer and private in the Army of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Holt introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service in the armies of the Confederate States of America, and to repeal an act to exempt certain persons from enrollment for service in the Army of the Confederate States, approved April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and an act to exempt certain persons from military duty, approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Holt moved that the rules be suspended and the bill be made the special order of business for Friday next.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Crockett offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be, and he is hereby, respectfully requested to furnish to this House at an early day all official reports and correspondence, etc., touching the military operations of General Bragg and the officers and army under his command in his recent campaign in Kentucky, if, in the opinion of the President, a compliance with this resolution will not be incompatible with the public welfare;

which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. H. W. Bruce presented the claim of M. H. Cofer for horses killed; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. H. W. Bruce also presented the claim of G. W. Maxson for clothes lost; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Moore presented the claim of William Cardwell for the loss of slaves; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Read presented the petition of sundry clerks, praying an increase of pay: which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

Mr. Kenner introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to raise a war tax;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Kenner also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Perkins introduced

A joint resolution expressive of the opinion of Congress in relation to the conduct of certain citizens of Louisiana within the lines and in the presence of the enemy; which was read the first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Villeré, the same was ordered to be printed, and on motion of Mr. Perkins, was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Barksdale introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain parts of an act entitled 'An act to exempt persons from military duty;'" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Vest introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for placing in the military service of the Confederate States citizens of the State of Maryland residing or sojourning within the limits of the Confederacy;" which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Burnett moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Vest moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary: which was agreed to.

Mr. Vest also introduced joint resolutions indorsing the recent proclamation and order of the President on the subject of retaliation; which were read the first and second times, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foote introduced joint resolutions on the pending war and matters appertaining thereto; which were read the first and second times, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill repealing, or at least greatly modifying, the provisions of the existing laws relating to the employment of military substitutes, with a view to preventing the occurrence of such abuses as are now being experienced on this subject;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of purchasing, on account of the Government, all the cotton and tobacco now remaining in private hands, at a fair price, payable in notes and bonds of the Confederate Government, and imposing an export duty upon all that can not be thus purchased, of twenty per cent ad valorem, with a view to recompensing, in part, those

who have heretofore suffered, or who may hereafter suffer, from the destruction of their crops of tobacco and cotton under the authority of the Government in order to keep the same out of the hands of the enemy;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to sustain the present currency of the Government and prevent the future depreciation of the same;" which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Foote also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act providing for the punishment of pecuniary fraud in public officers, their aiders and abettors; and to punish the fraudulent reception or retention of public money by public officers, beyond what they may be entitled to receive;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the painful rumors now prevalent in regard to certain contracts recently entered into between the Commissary-General and various individuals, and especially the one alleged to have been entered into by the Commissary Department with Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co., for a large quantity of flour (supposed to be some five hundred thousand barrels), are of a nature to demand the promptest and most rigid scrutiny, with a view to the detection and punishment of fraudulent conduct on the part of certain official functionaries and other individuals if such practices have actually occurred, and the prevention of similar practices hereafter. The committee heretofore appointed for the purpose of looking into abuses of the description herein specified, known as the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, is hereby instructed to lose no time in looking into the contracts referred to and in reporting the true facts of the case to this House.

Pending the consideration of which,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

THIRD DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crumly.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the consideration of the resolution offered by Mr. Foote.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That the committee heretofore appointed to inquire into the action of commissaries and quartermasters in reference to their transactions, inquire into and report fully as to the contract recently entered into between the Commissary-General and Haxall, Crenshaw & Co., in reference to supplies of flour.

The amendment was accepted by Mr. Foote, and the resolution as modified was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolutions, viz:

Whereas more than two years have now passed away since the Confederate States of America deliberately promulgated their declaration of national independence, and during that period they have given conclusive evidence of their ability to maintain that declaration, by arms, against one of the most powerful nations, both by land and sea, that the world has yet known; and

Whereas during the said space of two years every effort consistent with our own dignity, and compatible with the usages of civilized nations, has been made by the Government of the Confederate States to procure recognition of our independence at the hands of the principal powers of Europe, and to open a mutually advantageous commerce with them, which efforts have been, notwithstanding these facts, almost wholly unavailing; and

Whereas the proof which we have already given of wisdom in council, of decorum and dignity in action, of general concord and hearty cooperation both among our States and people, joined to eminent success in war, and a noble moderation both in seasons of suffering and of triumph, has enrolled our name and our achievements upon the enduring record of history as a great and powerful community of sovereign States, equal in all the essential features of a true nationality to the proudest potentates that have ever yet claimed the respect of civilized men, so that it is comparatively immaterial to us whether we are ever formally recognized by foreign nations or not, they being at least as much interested in holding kindly intercourse with us, as we with them; and

Whereas it would be wholly incompatible with our own self-respect much longer to retain diplomatic agents at the courts to which they have been heretofore sent, whilst no indications of reciprocal regard and sympathy have been afforded by foreign governments: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That it be respectfully, but earnestly, recommended to the President that he do, as early as the first of May next, withdraw our present diplomatic agents from every foreign capital the government of which shall not have at that time agreed to recognize our independence; and that after said first day of May no foreign consul now acting as such within the limits of said Confederate States shall be longer allowed to exercise consular power among us except upon an exequatur asked for at the hands of the Government of said Confederate States, and granted by the same.

Resolved, That the conduct of the Emperor of France, in proposing, as he has recently done, to the several European powers that they should unite with him in an act of peaceful and amicable intervention in the contest now in progress between the Government of the United States and that of the Confederate States of America, has been highly gratifying both to the Government and people of the Confederate States, and the hope is indulged that this wise and magnanimous movement of the Emperor of France, so fully in harmony as it is with the principles which he has heretofore emphatically avowed in well-known published writings, and upon which he has uniformly acted since his elevation to the imperial throne, may soon eventuate in the establishment of relations between his Government and that of the Confederate States of America of close commercial amity and of enduring record;

which were read and, on motion of Mr. Foote, were referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed by the Senate to inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate has assembled, and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

The Senate have adopted a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee jointly with the committee appointed by the House of Representatives to wait on the President of the Confederate States and inform him that Congress is now in session pursuant to adjournment, and ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to submit, and Mr. Clay, Mr. Barnwell, and Mr. Henry have been appointed said committee.

Mr. Holt, from the joint committee to wait on the President and inform him that Congress was organized and ready to receive any communication he might be pleased to make, reported as follows, viz:

That the committee had performed their duty, and that the President would communicate with Congress immediately in writing.

Mr. Swan introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the issuance of a class of Treasury notes which shall be a legal tender of all debts, and to diminish the rate of interest on the public debt;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison; which is as follows, viz:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

At the date of your last adjournment the preparations of the enemy for further hostilities had assumed so menacing an aspect as to excite in some minds apprehension of our ability to meet them with sufficient promptness to avoid serious reverses. These preparations were completed shortly after your departure from the seat of government, and the armies of the United States made simultaneous advance on our frontiers, on the western rivers, and on the Atlantic coast in masses so great as to evince their hope of overbearing all resistance by mere weight of numbers. This hope, however, like those previously entertained by our foes, has vanished. In Virginia their fourth attempt at invasion by armies whose assured success was confidently predicted has met with decisive repulse. Our noble defenders, under the consummate leadership of their general, have again, at Fredericksburg, inflicted on the forces under General Burnside the like disastrous overthrow as had been previously suffered by the successive invading armies commanded by Generals McDowell, McClellan, and Pope.

In the West obstinate battles have been fought with varying fortunes, marked by frightful carnage on both sides, but the enemy's hopes of decisive results have again been baffled, while at Vicksburg another formidable expedition has been repulsed with inconsiderable loss on our side and severe damage to the assailing forces. On the Atlantic coast the enemy has been unable to gain a footing beyond the protecting shelter of his fleets, and the city of Galveston has just been recovered by our forces, which succeeded not only in the capture of the garrison, but of one of the enemy's vessels of war, which was carried by boarding parties from merchant river steamers. Our fortified positions have everywhere been much strengthened and improved, affording assurance of our ability to meet, with success, the utmost efforts of our enemies, in spite of the magnitude of their preparations for attack.

A review of our history during the two years of our national existence affords ample cause for congratulation and demands the most fervent expression of our thankfulness to the Almighty Father who has blessed our cause. We are justified in asserting, with a pride surely not unbecoming, that these Confederate States have added another to the lessons taught by history for the instruction of man; that they have afforded another example of the impossibility of subjugating a people determined to be free, and have demonstrated that no superiority of numbers or available resources can overcome the resistance offered by such valor in combat, such constancy under suffering, and such cheerful endurance of privation as have been conspicuously displayed by this people in the defense of their rights and liberties. The anticipations with which we entered into the contest have now ripened into a conviction which is not only shared with us by the common opinion of neutral nations, but is evidently forcing itself upon our enemies themselves. If we but mark the history of the present year by resolute perseverance in the path we have hitherto pursued, by vigorous effort in the development of all our resources for defense, and by the continued exhibition of the same unflinching courage in our soldiers and able conduct in their leaders as have distinguished the past, we have every reason to expect that this will be the closing year of the war. The war, which in its inception was waged for forcing us back into the Union, having failed to accomplish that purpose, passed into a second stage, in which it was attempted to conquer and rule these States as dependent provinces. Defeated in this second design, our enemies have evidently entered upon another, which can have no other purpose than revenge and thirst for blood and plunder of private property. But however implacable they may be, they can have neither the spirit nor the resources required for a fourth year of a struggle uncheered by any hope of success, kept alive solely for the indulgence of mercenary and wicked passions, and demanding so exhaustive an expenditure of blood and money as has hitherto been imposed on their people. The advent of peace will be hailed with joy. Our desire for it has never been concealed. Our efforts to avoid the war, forced on us as it was by the lust of conquest and the insane passions of our foes, are known to mankind. But earnest as has been our wish for peace and great as have been our sacrifices and sufferings during the war, the determination of this people has, with each succeeding month, become more unalterably fixed to endure any sufferings and continue any sacrifices, however prolonged, until their right to self-government and the sovereignty and independence of these States shall have been triumphantly vindicated and firmly established.

In this connection the occasion seems not unsuitable for some reference to the relations between the Confederacy and the neutral powers of Europe since the separation of these States from the former Union.

Four of the States now members of the Confederacy were recognized by name as independent sovereignties in a treaty of peace concluded in the year 1783 with one of the two great maritime powers of western Europe, and had been, prior to that period, allies in war of the other. In the year 1778 they formed a union with nine other States under Articles of Confederation. Dissatisfied with that union, three of them—Virginia, South Carolina, and Georgia, together with eight of the States now members of the United States—seceded from it in 1789, and these eleven seceding States formed a second union, although by the terms of the Articles of Confederation express provision was made that the first union should be perpetual. Their right to secede, notwithstanding this provision, was neither contested by the States from which they separated nor made the subject of discussion with any third power. When, at a later period, North Carolina acceded to that second union, and when, still later, the other sovereign *a* States—now members of this Confederacy—became also members of the same union, it was upon the recognized footing of equal and independent sovereignties; nor had it then entered into the minds of men that sovereign States could be compelled by force to remain members of a confederation into which they had entered of their own free will, if at a subsequent period the defense of their safety and honor should, in their judgment, justify withdrawal. The experience of the past had evinced the futility of any renunciation of such inherent rights, and accordingly the provision for perpetuity contained in the Articles of Confederation of 1778 was omitted in the Constitution of 1789. When, therefore, in 1861, eleven of the States again thought proper, for reasons satisfactory to themselves, to secede from the second union and to form a third one under an amended constitution, they exercised a right which, being inherent, required no justification to foreign nations, and which international law did not permit them to question. The usages of intercourse between nations do, however, require that official communication be made to friendly powers of all organic changes in the constitution of States, and there was obvious propriety in giving prompt assurance of our desire to continue amicable relations with all mankind. It was under the influence of these considerations that your predecessors, the Provisional Government, took early measures for sending to Europe commissioners charged with the duty of visiting the capitals of the different powers and making arrangements for the opening of more formal diplomatic intercourse.

Prior, however, to the arrival abroad of those commissioners, the United States had commenced hostilities against the Confederacy by dispatching a secret expedition for the reinforcement of Fort Sumter, after an express promise to the contrary, and with a duplicity which has been fully unveiled in a former message. They had also addressed communications to the different cabinets of Europe, in which they assumed the attitude of being sovereign over this Confederacy, alleging that these independent States were in rebellion against the remaining States of the Union, and threatening Europe with manifestations of their displeasure if it should treat the Confederate States as having an independent existence. It soon became known that these pretensions were not considered abroad to be as absurd as they were known to be at home, nor had Europe yet learned what reliance was to be placed on the official statements of the Cabinet at Washington. The delegation of power granted by these States to the Federal Government to represent them in foreign intercourse had led Europe into the grave error of supposing that their separate sovereignty and independence had been merged into one common sovereignty and had ceased to have a distinct existence. Under the influence of this error, which all appeals to reason and historical fact were vainly used to dispel, our commissioners were met by the declaration that foreign governments could not assume to judge between the conflicting representations of the two parties as to the true nature of their previous mutual relations. The Governments of Great Britain and France accordingly signified their determination to confine themselves to recognizing the self-evident fact of the existence of a war and to maintaining a strict neutrality during its progress. Some of the other powers of Europe pursued the same course of policy, and it became apparent that by some understanding, express or tacit, Europe had decided to leave the initiative in all action touching the contest on this continent to the two powers just named, who were recognized to have the largest interests involved, both by reason of proximity and of the extent and intimacy of their commercial relations with the States engaged in war.

It is manifest that the course of action adopted by Europe, while based on an apparent refusal to determine the question or to side with either party, was, in point of fact, an actual decision against our rights and in favor of the groundless pretensions of the United States. It was a refusal to treat us as an independent government. If we were independent States, the refusal to entertain with us the same international

a In the original this word was written "seven." For the President's letter changing it to read "sovereign," see p. 38, *post*.

intercourse as was maintained with our enemy was unjust and was injurious in its effects, whatever may have been the motive which prompted it. Neither was it in accordance with the high moral obligations of that international code whose chief sanction is the conscience of sovereigns and the public opinion of mankind, that those eminent powers should decline the performance of a duty peculiarly incumbent on them, from any apprehension of the consequences to themselves. One immediate and necessary result of their declining the responsibility of a decision which must have been adverse to the extravagant pretensions of the United States, was the prolongation of hostilities to which our enemies were thereby encouraged and which have resulted in nothing but scenes of carnage and devastation on this continent and of misery and suffering on the other, such as have scarcely a parallel in history. Had those powers promptly admitted our right to be treated as all other independent nations, none can doubt that the moral effect of such action would have been to dispel the delusion under which the United States have persisted in their efforts to accomplish our subjugation. To the continued hesitation of the same powers in rendering this act of simple justice toward this Confederacy is still due the continuance of the calamities which mankind suffers from the interruption of its peaceful pursuits, both in the old and the new worlds.

There are other matters in which less than justice has been rendered to this people by neutral Europe, and undue advantage conferred on the aggressors in a wicked war. At the inception of hostilities the inhabitants of the Confederacy were almost exclusively agriculturists; those of the United States, to a great extent, mechanics and merchants. We had no commercial marine, while their merchant vessels covered the ocean. We were without a navy, while they had powerful fleets. The advantage which they possessed for inflicting injury on our coasts and harbors was thus counterbalanced in some measure by the exposure of their commerce to attack by private armed vessels. It was known to Europe that within a very few years past the United States had peremptorily refused to accede to proposals for abolishing privateering, on the ground, as alleged by them, that nations owning powerful fleets would thereby obtain undue advantage over those possessing inferior naval forces. Yet no sooner was war flagrant between the Confederacy and the United States than the maritime powers of Europe issued orders prohibiting either party from bringing prizes into their ports. This prohibition, directed with apparent impartiality against both belligerents, was in reality effective against the Confederate States alone, for they alone could find a hostile commerce on the ocean. Merely nominal against the United States, the prohibition operated with intense severity on the Confederacy, by depriving it of the only means of maintaining, with some approach to equality, its struggle on the ocean against the crushing superiority of naval force possessed by its enemies. The value and efficiency of the weapon which was thus wrested from our grasp by the combined action of neutral European powers in favor of a nation which professes openly its intention of ravaging their commerce by privateers in any future war, is strikingly illustrated by the terror inspired among the commercial classes of the United States by a single cruiser of the Confederacy. One national steamer commanded by officers and manned by a crew who are debarr'd, by the closure of neutral ports, from the opportunity of causing captured vessels to be condemned in their favor as prize, has sufficed to double the rates of marine insurance in Northern ports and consign to forced inaction numbers of Northern vessels, in addition to the direct damage inflicted by captures at sea. How difficult, then, to overestimate the effects that must have been produced by the hundreds of private armed vessels that would have swept the seas in pursuit of the commerce of our enemy, if the means of disposing of their prizes had not been withheld by the action of neutral Europe!

But it is especially in relation to the so-called blockade of our coast that the policy of European powers has been so shaped as to cause the greatest injury to the Confederacy, and to confer signal advantages on the United States. The importance of this subject requires some development.

Prior to the year 1856 the principles regulating this subject were to be gathered from the writings of eminent publicists, the decisions of admiralty courts, international treaties, and the usages of nations. The uncertainty and doubt which prevailed in reference to the true rules of maritime law in time of war, resulting from the discordant and often conflicting principles announced from such varied and independent sources, had become a grievous evil to mankind. Whether a blockade was allowable against a port not invested by land as well as by sea; whether a blockade was valid by sea if the investing fleet was merely sufficient to render ingress to the blockaded port "evidently dangerous," or whether it was further required for its legality that it should be sufficient "really to prevent access," and numerous other similar questions had remained doubtful and undecided.

Animated by the highly honorable desire to put an end "to differences of opinion between neutrals and belligerents, which may occasion serious difficulties and even conflicts" (I quote the official language), the five great powers of Europe, together with Sardinia and Turkey, adopted, in 1856, the following "solemn declaration" of principles:

"1. Privateering is and remains abolished.

"2. The neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war.

"3. Neutral goods, with the exception of contraband of war, are not liable to capture under enemy's flag.

"4. Blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective; this is to say, maintained by a force sufficient really to prevent access to the coast of the enemy."

Not only did this solemn declaration announce to the world the principles to which the signing powers agreed to conform in future wars, but it contained a clause to which those powers gave immediate effect, and which provided that the States not parties to the Congress of Paris should be invited to accede to the declaration. Under this invitation every independent State in Europe yielded its assent; at least, no instance is known to me of refusal; and the United States, while declining to assent to the proposition which prohibited privateering, declared that the three remaining principles were in entire accordance with their own views of international law.

No instance is known in history of the adoption of rules of public law under circumstances of like solemnity, with like unanimity, and pledging the faith of nations with a sanctity so peculiar.

When, therefore, this Confederacy was formed, and when neutral powers, while deferring action on its demand for admission into the family of nations, recognized it as a belligerent power, Great Britain and France made informal proposals about the same time that their own rights as neutrals should be guaranteed by our acceding, as belligerents, to the declaration of principles made by the Congress of Paris. The request was addressed to our sense of justice, and therefore met immediate favorable response in the resolutions of the Provisional Congress of the 13th August, 1861, by which all the principles announced by the Congress of Paris were adopted as the guide of our conduct during the war, with the sole exception of that relative to privateering. As the right to make use of privateers was one in which neutral nations had, as to the present war, no interest; as it was a right which the United States had refused to abandon and which they remained at liberty to employ against us; as it was a right of which we were already in actual enjoyment, and which we could not be expected to renounce *flagrante bello* against an adversary possessing an overwhelming superiority of naval forces, it was reserved with entire confidence that neutral nations could not fail to perceive that just reason existed for the reservation. Nor was this confidence misplaced, for the official documents published by the British Government, usually called "Blue Books," contain the expression of the satisfaction of that Government with the conduct of the officials who conducted successfully the delicate business confided to their charge.

These solemn declarations of principle, this implied agreement between the Confederacy and the two powers just named, have been suffered to remain inoperative against the menaces and outrages on neutral rights committed by the United States with unceasing and progressing arrogance during the whole period of the war. Neutral Europe remained passive when the United States, with a naval force insufficient to blockade, effectively, the coast of a single State, proclaimed a paper blockade of thousands of miles of coast, extending from the capes of the Chesapeake to those of Florida, and encircling the Gulf of Mexico from Key West to the mouth of the Rio Grande. Compared with this monstrous pretension of the United States, the blockades known in history under the names of the Berlin and Milan decrees and the British orders in council, in the years 1806 and 1807, sink into insignificance! Yet those blockades were justified by the powers that declared them on the sole ground that they were retaliatory; yet those blockades have since been condemned by the publicists of those very powers as violations of international law; yet those blockades evoked angry remonstrances from neutral powers, amongst which the United States were the most conspicuous; yet those blockades became the chief cause of the war between Great Britain and the United States in 1812; yet those blockades were one of the principal motives that led to the declaration of the Congress of Paris in 1856, in the fond hope of imposing an enduring check on the very abuse of maritime power, which is now renewed by the United States in 1861 and 1862, under circumstances and with features of aggravated wrong without precedent in history.

The records of our State Department contain the evidence of the repeated and formal remonstrances made by this Government to neutral powers against the recognition of this blockade. It has been shown by evidence not capable of contradiction, and which has been furnished in part by the officials of neutral nations, that the few

ports of this Confederacy, before which any naval forces at all have been stationed, have been invested so inefficiently that hundreds of entries have been effected into them since the declaration of the blockade; that our enemies have themselves admitted the inefficiency of their blockade in the most forcible manner, by repeated official complaints of the sale, to us, of goods contraband of war, a sale which could not possibly affect their interests if their pretended blockade was sufficient "really to prevent access to our coast;" that they have gone farther, and have alleged their inability to render their paper blockade effective as the excuse for the odious barbarity of destroying the entrance to one of our harbors by sinking vessels loaded with stone in the channel; that our commerce with foreign nations has been intercepted, not by the effective investment of our ports, nor by the seizure of ships in the attempt to enter them, but by the capture on the high seas of neutral vessels by the cruisers of our enemies whenever supposed to be bound to any point on our extensive coast, without inquiry whether a single blockading vessel was to be found at such point; that blockading vessels have left the ports at which they were stationed for distant expeditions, have been absent for many days and have returned, without notice either of the cessation or renewal of the blockade; in a word, that every prescription of maritime law and every right of neutral nations to trade with a belligerent under the sanction of principles heretofore universally respected have been systematically and persistently violated by the United States. Neutral Europe has received our remonstrances and has submitted in almost unbroken silence to all the wrongs that the United States have chosen to inflict on its commerce. The Cabinet of Great Britain, however, has not confined itself to such implied acquiescence in these breaches of international law as results from simple inaction, but has, in a published dispatch of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, assumed to make a change in the principle enunciated by the Congress of Paris, to which the faith of the British Government was considered to be pledged; a change too important and too prejudicial to the interests of the Confederacy to be overlooked, and against which I have directed solemn protest to be made, after a vain attempt to obtain satisfactory explanations from the British Government. In a published dispatch from Her Majesty's foreign office to her minister at Washington, under date of the 11th February, 1862, occurs the following passage:

"Her Majesty's Government, however, are of opinion that, assuming that the blockade was duly notified, and also that a number of ships is stationed and remains at the entrance of a port sufficient really to prevent access to it, *or to create an evident danger of entering it or leaving it*, and that these ships do not voluntarily permit ingress or egress, the fact that various ships may have successfully escaped through it (as in the particular instance here referred to) will not of itself prevent the blockade from being an effectual one by international law."

The words which I have italicized are an addition made by the British Government of its own authority to a principle the exact terms of which were settled with deliberation by the common consent of civilized nations and by implied convention with this Government, as already explained, and their effect is clearly to reopen to the prejudice of the Confederacy one of the very disputed questions on the law of blockade which the Congress of Paris professed to settle. The importance of this change is readily illustrated by taking one of our ports as an example. There is "evident danger" in entering the port of Wilmington, from the presence of a blockading force, and by this test the blockade is effective. "Access is not really prevented" by the blockading fleet to the same port, for steamers are continually arriving and departing, so that, tried by this test, the blockade is ineffective and invalid. The justice of our complaint on this point is so manifest as to leave little room for doubt that further reflection will induce the British Government to give us such assurances as will efface the painful impressions that would result from its language if left unexplained.

From the foregoing remarks you will perceive that during nearly two years of struggle, in which every energy of our country has been evoked for maintaining its very existence, the neutral nations of Europe have pursued a policy which, nominally impartial, has been practically most favorable to our enemies and most detrimental to us.

The exercise of the neutral right of refusing entry into their ports to prizes taken by both belligerents was eminently hurtful to the Confederacy. It was sternly asserted and maintained.

The exercise of the neutral right of commerce with a belligerent whose ports are not blockaded by fleets sufficient really to prevent access to them would have been eminently hurtful to the United States. It was complaisantly abandoned.

The duty of neutral States to receive with cordiality and recognize with respect any new confederation that independent States may think proper to form was too

clear to admit of denial, but its postponement was eminently beneficial to the United States and detrimental to the Confederacy. It was postponed.

In this review of our relations with the neutral nations of Europe it has been my purpose to point out distinctly that this Government has no complaint to make that those nations declared their neutrality. It could neither expect nor desire more. The complaint is that the neutrality has been rather nominal than real, and that recognized neutral rights have been alternatively asserted and waived in such manner as to bear with great severity on us and to confer signal advantages on our enemy.

I have hitherto refrained from calling to your attention this condition of our relations with foreign powers for various reasons. The chief of these was the fear that a statement of our just grounds of complaint against a course of policy so injurious to our interests might be misconstrued into an appeal for aid. Unequal as we were in mere numbers and available resources to our enemies, we were conscious of powers of resistance, in relation to which Europe was incredulous, and our remonstrances were therefore peculiarly liable to be misunderstood. Proudly self-reliant, the Confederacy, knowing full well the character of the contest into which it was forced, with full trust in the superior qualities of its population, the superior valor of its soldiers, the superior skill of its generals, and, above all, in the justice of its cause, felt no need to appeal for the maintenance of its rights to other earthly aids, and it began and has continued this struggle with the calm confidence ever inspired in those who, with consciousness of right, can invoke the Divine blessing on their cause. This confidence has been so assured that we have never yielded to despondency under defeat, nor do we feel undue elation at the present brighter prospect of successful issue to our contest. It is, therefore, because our just grounds of complaint can no longer be misinterpreted that I lay them clearly before you. It seems to me now proper to give you the information, and, although no immediate results may be attained, it is well that truth should be preserved and recorded. It is well that those who are to follow us should understand the full nature and character of the tremendous conflict in which the blood of our people has been poured out like water, and in which they have resisted, unaided, the shock of hosts which would have sufficed to overthrow many of the powers which, by their hesitation in according our rights as an independent nation, imply doubt of our ability to maintain our national existence. It may be, too, that if in future times unfriendly discussions not now anticipated shall, unfortunately, arise between this Confederacy and some European power, the recollection of our forbearance under the grievances which I have enumerated may be evoked with happy influence in preventing any serious disturbance of peaceful relations.

It would not be proper to close my remarks on the subject of our foreign relations without adverting to the fact that the correspondence between the cabinets of France, Great Britain, and Russia, recently published, indicates a gratifying advance in the appreciation by those Governments of the true interests of mankind as involved in the war on this continent. It is to the enlightened ruler of the French nation that the public feeling of Europe is indebted for the first official exhibition of its sympathy for the sufferings endured by this people with so much heroism, of its horror at the awful carnage with which the progress of the war has been marked, and of its desire for a speedy peace. The clear and direct intimation contained in the language of the French note, that our ability to maintain our independence has been fully established, was not controverted by the answer of either of the cabinets to which it was addressed. It is indeed difficult to conceive a just ground for a longer delay on this subject after reading the following statement of facts contained in the letter emanating from the minister of his Imperial Majesty: "There has been established, from the very beginning of this war, an equilibrium of forces between the belligerents, which has since been almost constantly maintained, and, after the spilling of so much blood, they are to-day, in this respect, in a situation which has not sensibly changed. Nothing authorizes the prevision that more decisive military operations will shortly occur. According to the last advices received in Europe, the two armies were, on the contrary, in a condition which permitted neither to hope within a short delay advantages sufficiently marked to turn the balance definitely and to accelerate the conclusion of peace." As this Government has never professed the intention of conquering the United States, but has simply asserted its ability to defend itself against being conquered by that power, we may safely conclude that the claims of this Confederacy to its just place in the family of nations can not long be withheld after so frank and formal an admission of its capacity to cope, on equal terms, with its aggressive foes, and to maintain itself against their attempts to obtain decisive results by arms.

It is my painful duty again to inform you of the renewed examples of every conceivable atrocity committed by the armed forces of the United States at different points within the Confederacy, and which must stamp indelible infamy not only on

the perpetrators, but on their superiors, who, having the power to check these outrages on humanity, numerous and well authenticated as they have been, have not yet, in a single instance of which I am aware, inflicted punishment on the wrongdoers. Since my last communication to you one General McNeil murdered seven prisoners of war in cold blood, and the demand for his punishment has remained unsatisfied. The Government of the United States, after promising examination and explanation in relation to the charges made against Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, has, by its subsequent silence, after repeated efforts on my part to obtain some answer on the subject, not only admitted his guilt, but sanctioned it by acquiescence, and I have accordingly branded this criminal as an outlaw and directed his execution in expiation of his crimes if he should fall into the hands of any of our forces. Recently I have received apparently authentic intelligence of another general by the name of Milroy, who has issued orders in western Virginia for the payment of money to him by the inhabitants, accompanied by the most savage threats of shooting every recusant, besides burning his house, and threatening similar atrocities against any of our citizens who shall fail to betray their country by giving him prompt notice of the approach of any of our forces, and this subject has also been submitted to the superior military authorities of the United States, with but faint hope that they will evince any disapprobation of the act. Humanity shudders at the appalling atrocities which are being daily multiplied under the sanction of those who have obtained temporary possession of power in the United States and who are fast making its once fair name a by-word of reproach among civilized men. Not even the natural indignation inspired by this conduct should make us, however, so unjust as to attribute to the whole mass of the people who are subjected to the despotism that now reigns with unbridled license in the city of Washington a willing acquiescence in its conduct of the war. There must necessarily exist among our enemies very many, perhaps a majority, whose humanity recoils from all participation in such atrocities, but who can not be held wholly guiltless while permitting their continuance without an effort at repression.

The public journals of the North have been received, containing a proclamation dated on the first day of the present month, signed by the President of the United States, in which he orders and declares all slaves within ten of the States of the Confederacy to be free, except such as are found within certain districts now occupied in part by the armed forces of the enemy.

We may well leave it to the instincts of that common humanity which a beneficent Creator has implanted in the breasts of our fellow-men of all countries to pass judgment on a measure by which several millions of human beings of an inferior race, peaceful and contented laborers in their sphere, are doomed to extermination, while at the same time they are encouraged to a general assassination of their masters by the insidious recommendation "to abstain from violence unless in necessary self-defense." Our own detestation of those who have attempted the most execrable measure recorded in the history of guilty man is tempered by profound contempt for the impotent rage which it discloses. So far as regards the action of this Government on such criminals as may attempt its execution, I confine myself to informing you that I shall, unless in your wisdom you deem some other course more expedient, deliver to the several State authorities all commissioned officers of the United States that may hereafter be captured by our forces in any of the States embraced in the proclamation, that they may be dealt with in accordance with the laws of those States providing for the punishment of criminals engaged in exciting servile insurrection. The enlisted soldiers I shall continue to treat as unwilling instruments in the commission of these crimes, and shall direct their discharge and return to their homes on the proper and usual parole.

In its political aspect this measure possesses great significance, and to it in this light I invite your attention. It affords to our whole people the complete and crowning proof of the true nature of the designs of the party which elevated to power the present occupant of the Presidential chair at Washington, and which sought to conceal its purposes by every variety of artful device and by the perfidious use of the most solemn and repeated pledges on every possible occasion. I extract, in this connection, as a single example, the following declaration made by President Lincoln, under the solemnity of his oath as Chief Magistrate of the United States, on the 4th March, 1861:

"Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States that by the accession of a Republican Administration their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehensions. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you. I do but quote from one of those

speeches when I declare that I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. And, more than this, they placed in the platform for my acceptance, and as a law to themselves and to me, the clear and emphatic resolution which I now read:

“*Resolved*, That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of the States, and especially the right of each State to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgment exclusively, is essential to the balance of powers on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric depend; and we denounce the lawless invasion by armed force of the soil of any State or Territory, no matter under what pretext, as among the gravest crimes.”

Nor was this declaration of the want of power or disposition to interfere with our social system confined to a state of peace. Both before and after the actual commencement of hostilities the President of the United States repeated in formal official communication to the cabinets of Great Britain and France that he was utterly without constitutional power to do the act which he has just committed, and that in no possible event, whether the secession of these States resulted in the establishment of a separate confederacy or in the restoration of the Union, was there any authority by virtue of which he could either restore a disaffected State to the Union by force of arms or make any change in any of its institutions. I refer especially for verification of this assertion to the dispatches addressed by the Secretary of State of the United States, under direction of the President, to the ministers of the United States at London and Paris, under date of 10th and 22d April, 1861.

The people of this Confederacy, then, can not fail to receive this proclamation as the fullest vindication of their own sagacity in foreseeing the uses to which the dominant party in the United States intended from the beginning to apply their power, nor can they cease to remember, with devout thankfulness, that it is to their own vigilance in resisting the first stealthy progress of approaching despotism that they owe their escape from consequences now apparent to the most skeptical. This proclamation will have another salutary effect in calming the fears of those who have constantly evinced the apprehension that this war might end by some reconstruction of the old Union or some renewal of close political relations with the United States. These fears have never been shared by me, nor have I ever been able to perceive on what basis they could rest. But the proclamation affords the fullest guarantee of the impossibility of such a result; it has established a state of things which can lead to but one of three possible consequences—the extermination of the slaves, the exile of the whole white population from the Confederacy, or absolute and total separation of these States from the United States.

This proclamation is also an authentic statement by the Government of the United States of its inability to subjugate the South by force of arms, and as such must be accepted by neutral nations, which can no longer find any justification in withholding our just claims to formal recognition. It is also in effect an intimation to the people of the North that they must prepare to submit to a separation, now become inevitable, for that people are too acute not to understand that a restoration of the Union has been rendered forever impossible by the adoption of a measure which, from its very nature, neither admits of retraction nor can coexist with union.

Among the subjects to which your attention will be specially devoted during the present session you will no doubt deem the adoption of some comprehensive system of finance as being of paramount importance. The increasing public debt, the great augmentation in the volume of the currency, with its necessary concomitant of extravagant prices for all articles of consumption, the want of revenue from a taxation adequate to support the public credit, all unite in admonishing us that energetic and wise legislation alone can prevent serious embarrassment in our monetary affairs. It is my conviction that the people of the Confederacy will freely meet taxation on a scale adequate to the maintenance of the public credit and the support of their Government. When each family is sending forth its most precious ones to meet exposure in camp and death in battle, what ground can there be to doubt the disposition to devote a tithe of its income, and more, if more be necessary, to provide the Government with means for insuring the comfort of its defenders? If our enemies submit to an excise on every commodity they produce and to the daily presence of the tax-gatherer, with no higher motive than the hope of success in their wicked designs against us, the suggestion of an unwillingness on the part of this people to submit to the taxation necessary for the success of their defense is an imputation on their patriotism that few will be disposed to make and that none can justify.

The legislation of your last session intended to hasten the funding of outstanding Treasury notes has proved beneficial, as shown by the returns annexed to the report

of the Secretary of the Treasury. But it was neither sufficiently prompt nor far-reaching to meet the full extent of the evil. The passage of some enactment, carrying still further the policy of that law by fixing a limitation not later than the 1st July next to the delay allowed for funding the notes issued prior to the 1st December, 1862, will, in the opinion of the Secretary, have the effect to withdraw from circulation nearly the entire sum issued previous to the last-named date. If to this be added a revenue from adequate taxation and a negotiation of bonds guaranteed proportionately by the several States, as has already been generously proposed by some of them in enactments spontaneously adopted, there is little doubt that we shall see our finances restored to a sound and satisfactory condition, our circulation relieved of the redundancy now productive of so many mischiefs, and our credit placed on such a basis as to relieve us from further anxiety relative to our resources for the prosecution of the war.

It is true that at its close our debt will be large; but it will be due to our own people, and neither the interest nor the capital will be exported to distant countries, impoverishing ours for their benefit. On the return of peace the untold wealth which will spring from our soil will render the burthen of taxation far less onerous than is now supposed, especially if we take into consideration that we shall then be free from the large and steady drain of our substance to which we were subjected in the late Union through the instrumentality of sectional legislation and protective tariffs.

I recommend to your earnest attention the whole report of the Secretary of the Treasury on this important subject, and trust that your legislation on it will be delayed no longer than may be required to enable your wisdom to devise the proper measures for insuring the accomplishment of the objects proposed.

The operations of the War Department have been in the main satisfactory. In the report of the Secretary, herewith submitted, will be found a summary of many memorable successes. They are with justice ascribed in large measure to the reorganization and reinforcement of our armies under the operation of the enactments for conscription. The wisdom and efficacy of these acts have been approved by results, and the like spirit of unity, endurance, and self-devotion in the people, which has hitherto sustained their action, must be relied on to assure their enforcement under the continuing necessities of our situation. The recommendations of the Secretary to this effect are tempered by suggestions for their amelioration, and the subject deserves the consideration of Congress. For the perfection of our military organization no appropriate means should be rejected, and on this subject the opinions of the Secretary merit early attention. It is gratifying to perceive that, under all the efforts and sacrifices of war, the power, means, and resources of the Confederacy for its successful prosecution are increasing. Dependence on foreign supplies is to be deplored, and should, as far as practicable, be obviated by the development and employment of internal resources. The peculiar circumstances of the country, however, render this difficult and require extraordinary encouragements and facilities to be granted by the Government. The embarrassments resulting from the limited capacity of the railroads to afford transportation, and the impossibility of otherwise commanding and distributing the necessary supplies for the armies, render the control of the roads under some general supervision, and resort to the power of impressment, military exigencies. While such powers have to be exercised, they should be guarded by judicious provisions against perversion or abuse, and be, as recommended by the Secretary, under due regulation of law.

I specially recommend in this connection some revision of the exemption law of last session. Serious complaints have reached me of the inequality of its operation from eminent and patriotic citizens, whose opinions merit great consideration, and I trust that some means will be devised for leaving at home a sufficient local police without making discriminations, always to be deprecated, between different classes of our citizens.

Our relations with the Indians generally continue to be friendly. A portion of the Cherokee people have assumed an attitude hostile to the Confederate Government; but it is gratifying to be able to state that the mass of intelligence and worth in that nation have remained true and loyal to their treaty engagements. With this exception there have been no important instances of disaffection among any of the friendly nations and tribes. Dissatisfaction recently manifested itself among certain portions of them, but this resulted from a misapprehension of the intentions of the Government in their behalf. This has been removed and no further difficulty is anticipated.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith transmitted, exhibits the progress made in this branch of the public service since your adjournment, as well as its present condition. The details embraced in it are of such a nature as to render it, in my opinion, incompatible with the public interests that they should be published with

this message. I therefore confine myself to inviting your attention to the information therein contained.

The report of the Postmaster-General shows that during the first postal year under our Government, terminating on the 30th of June last, our revenues were in excess of those received by the former Government in its last postal year, while the expenses were greatly decreased. There is still, however, a considerable deficit in the revenues of the Department as compared with its expenses, and although the grants already made from the general Treasury will suffice to cover all liabilities to the close of the fiscal year ending on the 30th June next, I recommend some legislation, if any can be constitutionally devised, for aiding the revenues of that Department during the ensuing fiscal year, in order to avoid too great a reduction of postal facilities. Your attention is also invited to numerous other improvements in the service recommended in the report, and for which legislation is required.

I recommend to the Congress to devise a proper mode of relief to those of our citizens whose property has been destroyed by order of the Government in pursuance of a policy adopted as a means of national defense. It is true that full indemnity can not now be made, but some measure of relief is due to those patriotic citizens who have borne private loss for the public good, whose property in effect has been taken for public use, though not directly appropriated.

Our Government, born of the spirit of freedom and of the equality and independence of the States, could not have survived a selfish or jealous disposition, making each only careful of its own interest or safety. The fate of the Confederacy under the blessing of Divine Providence depends upon the harmony, energy, and unity of the States. It especially devolves on you, their representatives, as far as practicable, to reform abuses, to correct errors, to cultivate fraternity, and to sustain in the people a just confidence in the Government of their choice. To that confidence and to the unity and self-sacrificing patriotism hitherto displayed is due the success which has marked the unequal contest, and has brought our country into a condition at the present time such as the most sanguine would not have ventured to predict at the commencement of our struggle. Our armies are larger, better disciplined, and more thoroughly armed and equipped than at any previous period of the war. The energies of a whole nation, devoted to the single object of success in this war, have accomplished marvels, and many of our trials have, by a beneficent Providence, been converted into blessings. The magnitude of the perils which we encountered have developed the true qualities and illustrated the heroic character of our people, thus gaining for the Confederacy from its birth a just appreciation from the other nations of the earth. The injuries resulting from the interruption of foreign commerce have received compensation by the development of our internal resources. Cannon crown our fortresses that were cast from the products of mines opened and furnaces built during the war. Our mountain caves yield much of the niter for the manufacture of powder, and promise increase of product. From our own foundries and laboratories, from our own armories and workshops, we derive, in a great measure, the war-like material, the ordnance and ordnance stores which are expended so profusely in the numerous and desperate engagements that rapidly succeed each other. Cotton and woolen fabrics, shoes and harness, wagons and gun carriages are produced in daily increasing quantities by the factories springing into existence. Our fields, no longer whitened by cotton that can not be exported, are devoted to the production of cereals and the growth of stock formerly purchased with the proceeds of cotton. In the homes of our noble and devoted women, without whose sublime sacrifices our success would have been impossible, the noise of the loom and of the spinning wheel may be heard throughout the land. With hearts swelling with gratitude let us then join in returning thanks to God and in beseeching the continuance of his protecting care over our cause and the restoration of peace with its manifold blessings to our beloved country.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, *January 12, 1863.*

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the same was referred to the Committee of the Whole and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foote moved that 10,000 copies of the same be printed for use of members.

Mr. Lyons moved that the rule requiring the reference of the motion to the Committee on Printing be suspended.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the motion of Mr. Foote by striking out the words "ten thousand" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

"five thousand," and that the rule requiring the reference of the motion to the Committee on Printing be suspended; which was agreed to, and the motion as amended was agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House the report of the Secretary of War; which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented the report of the Secretary of the Treasury; which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented the report of the Postmaster-General; which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The Chair presented, also, estimates of appropriations required for the support of the Government during the period from February 1 to June 30, 1863, inclusive; which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The Chair presented, also, the report of the Attorney-General; which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair also presented a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting 110 copies of a Navy Register for the use of the members; which was read and laid upon the table.

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion of Mr. Davis,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair presented the report of the Secretary of the Navy; which was read and was, on motion, referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the proceedings upon the passage of a bill to amend an act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States of America, and concerning prizes and prize goods, etc.

On motion of Mr. Davis,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FOURTH DAY—THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crumly.

On motion of Mr. Swan, the bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the issuing of a class of Treasury notes which shall be a legal tender in the payment of all debts, and to diminish the rate of interest on the public debt," was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to regulate the issuing and funding of Treasury notes; which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill to amend an act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods; which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Foote moved a suspension of the rule requiring a reference of the bill to a committee.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Heiskell, a bill on the Calendar to punish counterfeiting in certain cases was recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Russell introduced

A bill to repress the attempt of the enemy to excite servile insurrection; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Russell also introduced

A bill to prevent the employment of negroes in war against the Confederate States of America; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to regulate impressments; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interests, a copy of the official report recently made by Colonel Imboden, to the War Department, in reference to the outrages perpetrated by General Milroy upon the patriotic people of the Northwestern and Valley districts of Virginia;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to report to this House, as soon as practicable, the amount of Treasury notes of each class and description, and also the amount of bonds of the Confederate States bearing eight per cent interest, and also of like bonds bearing six per cent interest, issued and outstanding on the thirteenth day of October last, and on the first day of each month thereafter; also the amount of each class of Treasury notes and bonds issued during each of said months; also at what date the issue of Treasury notes fundable in the eight per cent stock ceased, and whether the new issue authorized by the act of October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, shows on its face that it is fundable in a seven per cent stock;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of allowing the soldiers commutation in money for deficiencies in their rations; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of separating the Paymaster's and Quartermaster's Departments;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett also introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House all general orders of impressment, together with the instructions and regulations under the same recently issued by the War Department, or any bureau thereof;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing just compensation to our citizens for their property destroyed or damaged by our Army or military authorities;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill to exempt certain persons from enrollment for military service in the Army of the Confederate States, and to repeal all former exemption laws passed by the Congress of the Confederate States; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Goode introduced

A bill for the protection of citizens removing their slaves from districts occupied by the enemy to places of greater security; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Goode offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be, and he is hereby, requested to inform this House what progress has been made in the construction of the railroad for connecting the Richmond and Danville with the North Carolina railroads;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Goode offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of regulating by law the subject of impressment, so as to secure to the owners of private property taken for the use of the Government a fair and just compensation;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Collier presented the memorial of Hillary Clegg, of Powhatan County, Va., praying compensation for a slave lost; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Collier introduced

A bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to audit and pay claims for the use and occupation of and damages to lands; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Collier also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House any correspondence or orders on file in the War Department touching the disbanding of the Fifth Battalion Virginia Volunteers; also the strength of each company of said battalion at the time of said disbandment; what disposition has been made of the officers and men, and any fact or circumstance connected with the said disbandment essential to a full and complete understanding of the whole case; also the length of time the said battalion had been in the service, and the authority of law by which said battalion was disbanded;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Johnston presented the memorial of J. G. Gittings in relation to the organization of the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Baldwin presented a design for a flag and seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House inquire into the expediency of making the following modifications of the rules, viz:

1. To allow bills, resolutions, and memorials, upon their first introduction, to be filed with the Clerk and to be by him referred, under the direction of the Speaker, to the proper committees.

2. To allow committees to file their reports with the Clerk and to require that all reports from committees be placed upon the Calendar in the order in which they are made.

3. To give precedence to the business on the Calendar as follows:

• Bills and resolutions originating in the House and returned from the Senate with amendments, in the order of their return.

Bills and resolutions originating in the Senate, in the order in which they come to the House.

Bills and resolutions originating and pending in the House and either reported from a committee or placed on the Calendar by order of the House, in the order in which they are reported or ordered.

4. To require an actual division of the House on every motion to suspend the rules;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to inform this House whether the board of officers appointed by General Orders, numbered sixty-eight, dated September seventeenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, have reported "A roll of merit based upon examination and testimonials," as required by said order, and whether those who passed the examination at the session of the board continuing on the twenty-sixth of September, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, were "arranged for appointment as captains, first and second lieutenants, according to merit," as was directed by General Orders, numbered seventy-one, of September twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; and whether the appointments of ordnance officers since made have been made "from the head of the list," as promised in said last-mentioned order. If not, why not?

Resolved also, That the Secretary of War be requested to furnish to this House a list of the applicants examined by the said Board, showing the States from which they came, and also the "roll of merit" and report of standing made by the Board;

which was read, and

Pending its consideration.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

• *Mr. Speaker*: I am directed to communicate to the House of Representatives information of the death of the Hon. William Ballard Preston, a member of the Senate from the State of Virginia, and the proceedings thereon; which are as follows, viz:

"On motion by Mr. Hunter,

Resolved unanimously, That the Senate deeply laments the recent death of the Honorable William Ballard Preston, who at the time of his decease was a member of this body from the State of Virginia, and tenders to his widow a sincere sympathy in this most afflicting bereavement.

Ordered, That the Secretary communicate a copy of the foregoing resolution to the family of the deceased, and, further, that he communicate these proceedings to the House of Representatives."

Mr. Staples offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the members of the House of Representatives have received with deep sensibility the message from the Senate announcing the death of the Honorable William Ballard Preston, a Virginia Senator in the Confederate Congress.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be communicated by the Clerk to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, this House do now adjourn;

which were read and unanimously agreed to.

And the House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

OPEN SESSION.

RICHMOND, *January 14, 1863.*

MAXALL, CRENSHAW & CO.

House of Representatives, Confederate States of America.

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also offered the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire into the expediency of calling upon the States of the Confederacy to unite in a joint guarantee of the debt of the Confederate States now existing or hereafter to be increased, excepting from such guarantee all Treasury notes, stock, and bonds heretofore issued ;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to fund the currency;" which was read the first and second times.

Pending the consideration of which,

The House adjourned, on motion of Mr. Dargan, until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTH DAY—SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crumly.

Mr. Royston announced the presence of the Hon. Robert M. Jones, a Delegate-elect from the Choctaw Nation.

Mr. Jones came forward, was duly qualified, and proceeded to take his seat.

The Chair laid before the House the following letter, viz :

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., *December 8, 1862.*

Mr. T. S. BOCKOCK,

Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

I, representing the First Congressional district of Florida, do hereby resign my position of member of the House of Representatives of the Confederate States.

Yours, respectfully, etc.,

JAMES B. DAWKINS.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering certain estimates.

I recommend that an appropriation be made of the amount and for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with accompanying documents, ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a communication from the Patent Office, presenting a list of patents granted during the year 1862; which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Patents, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Lyons.

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion, the Speaker appointed Mr. Royston on the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, vice Mr. Dawkins, resigned.

Mr. Lyons, from the Committee on Public Buildings, made the following report, viz:

The committee respectfully report that it has performed the duty assigned to it, and ascertained:

1. That the Exchange Building can be procured for the use of Congress.
2. That it can be rented for \$24,400 per annum, or purchased for \$175,000, subject to an annual ground rent of \$2,020.

3. That the building, with an outlay not exceeding \$5,000, and probably less, will afford ample and excellent accommodation for both Houses of Congress, their officers and committees, and much accommodation for other public officers, which the committee is informed is much needed, and thus save to the Government a large annual expense which it must otherwise encounter, and does now in part encounter, and still leave a large portion of it to be rented out if it should be the pleasure of Congress.

The committee deem it proper to add that they do not believe it would be practicable to obtain suitable committee rooms if the exchange be not purchased or rented, and that the Clerk and Doorkeeper of the House are now suffering much inconvenience from the want of suitable apartments. The committee deem it appropriate to state, also, that if the Exchange Building is taken another inconvenience which is now seriously felt at the close of every session will be removed, to wit: The want of a room which can be used by the President for examining and signing bills.

In the opinion of the committee, it will be more economical to purchase than to rent the building, and therefore recommend that it be purchased, and that the resolution herewith submitted be adopted and submitted to the Senate for its concurrence.

If that resolution be not adopted, then they recommend that the building be rented for the use of Congress.

If the property be purchased, the vendors will pay the expense of \$5,000 for alterations and will receive Confederate bonds bearing 8 per cent interest in payment for the property, or Confederate notes, as Congress may prefer.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES LYONS, *Chairman*.

DAV. M. CURRIN.

On motion of Mr. Lyons,

A joint resolution to authorize the purchase of the Exchange Building

was taken up, read first and second times;

When,

Mr. Gartrell moved to lay the same on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill providing for the enrollment of persons of foreign birth in the Confederate Army;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire whether any contracts have been made by officers of the Government in Richmond, during the present war, for ice; and, if so, what are the terms of such contracts, together with all important particulars connected therewith.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire what persons, if any, in the employment of either of said departments, and intrusted with the custody and disbursement of money, are now in default for failure to settle their accounts in the manner required by law, with material circumstances connected therewith; also what persons are in the employment of such departments who are required by law to give bond for the faithful performance of official duty heretofore failed to give bond; also if the head of either of said departments has assumed authority to appoint agents to be intrusted with the custody or disbursement of public money without requiring bond for faithful performance of the duties assigned to them; and report fully to the House their action thereon.

Mr. Foster introduced

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate destruction of property under military authority, and to provide indemnity therefor," passed 17th March, 1862; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Perkins introduced

Joint resolution calling upon the States to provide for the speedy trial of such officers of the United States as may be turned over to them by the Confederate Government; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the rules were suspended, and the House proceeded to the consideration of the following resolution offered by him, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings be authorized to negotiate for the rent of the Exchange Building for the space of one year.

Mr. Clark moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Upon which motion Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays:

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 36
Nays ----- 28

Yeas: Ayer, Burnett, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Heiskell, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Landier, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Foote, Gaither, Goode, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Lewis, Lyons, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Read, Swan, Trippe, Vest, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Davis moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the consideration of a motion to refer to the Committee on Ways and Means a bill to fund the currency.

And the motion prevailed.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution: which, on motion, was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate with the legislatures of the several States in the Confederacy and request them to enact laws declaring that contracts which may be thereafter made shall be payable in the notes of the Confederate Government, unless such contract shall stipulate for payment in gold or silver.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of so amending the Articles of War as to authorize the President to commission persons under twenty-one years of age as officers of the Army.

Mr. Lyons presented a memorial from the city council of Richmond, praying exemption from military service of certain workmen in the gas and water works; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing do inquire and report to this House whether a satisfactory arrangement can not be made with the editors of the newspapers of the city of Richmond, or some of them, to publish in their papers the proceedings and debates of this House, and such documents (except bills) as the House may order to be printed.

Upon the passage of which he demanded the yeas and nays;
Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 29
 } Nays ----- 21

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Davidson, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Goode, Graham, Hilton, Lewis, Lyons, McKae, Mencees, Miles, Staples, Trippe, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ayer, Baldwin, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Elliott, Farrow, Garland, Gartrell, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Strickland, Vest, and Villeré.

There being no quorum present,

Mr. Miles presented the following communication, to wit:

RICHMOND, *January 17, 1863.*

Hon. THOS. S. BOGOCK,

Speaker of the House of Representatives:

The undersigned beg leave respectfully to inform you that the Hon. M. L. Bonham having been elected governor of South Carolina, has resigned his seat in the present Congress.

Very respectfully,

JNO. McQUEEN.

W. PORCHER MILES.

W. W. BOYCE.

L. M. AYER.

JAMES FARROW.

The Speaker appointed Mr. Boyce on the Committee on Ways and Means, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Bonham.

And on motion,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair presented a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 15, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in reference to a matter which I commend to your special attention and early decision in secret session.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, with instructions to report as soon as practicable.

Mr. Foote, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to whom was referred

A bill to amend an act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods,
reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass,

And the question on the postponement of the further consideration of the bill being decided in the negative, the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being on the passage of the same,

Mr. Kemmer demanded that the yeas and nays be recorded thereon; and the demand being sustained,

The yeas and nays are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yeas.....	52
Nays.....	7

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Cooke, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Crockett, Currin, Davis, Hodge, Holt, Kenner, and Lyons.
So the bill was passed.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the coin removed from the banks of New Orleans; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Royston.

The House resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTH DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Doggett.

The Chair presented a message from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 17, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of an official report recently made by Colonel Imboden, as asked for in a resolution of the House of Representatives on the 15th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, the message and accompanying documents were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair presented the following telegraphic communication from Mr. Bonham, late a Representative from the State of South Carolina:

COLUMBIA, 17TH.

Hon. THOS. S. BOCKOCK:

Having accepted the office of governor of South Carolina, I am no longer a member of Congress, and have advised you of it by letter.

M. L. BONHAM.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was the resolution offered by Mr. Lyons in reference to publishing the proceedings and debates of the House in the city newspapers.

The resolution was lost.

Mr. Staples offered the following resolution; which was read and disagreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of so amending the exemption law as to exempt cashiers and tellers of banks from military service.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to prohibit quartermasters and others from speculating; which was read first and second times, referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dargan also introduced

A bill for the relief of collectors and all receiving officers and agents of the Government:

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair presented the following communication from J. P. Johnson, to wit:

JANUARY, 6, 1863.

Hon. THOS. S. BOOCK.

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Confederate States of America;

I desist from any further contest for the seat occupied in your honorable body by the Hon. A. H. Garland. In coming to this conclusion I desire to reiterate my solemn conviction that I am, by the free suffrage of the people of the Third Congressional district of the State of Arkansas, their rightful Representative, and as such should occupy the seat now held by Mr. Garland, but from a conscientious feeling that I ought not *further* to prosecute a claim to a seat in Congress, however well founded, at a time when it should give its undivided attention to the successful prosecution of the war, especially as the term for which this Congress is elected is rapidly running to its termination.

Very respectfully,

J. P. JOHNSON.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the communication was ordered to be spread on the Journal, and the Committee on Elections was discharged from the further consideration of the case of Johnson *vs.* Garland.

Mr. Clopton offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation be instructed to confer with the Secretary of War and procure, if practicable, the establishment of such regulations as will secure to the people of the Confederate States the freest use of the railroad transportation of the country consistent with the military necessities of the Government, and to inquire what legislation, if any, is necessary to accomplish this object.

Mr. Clopton also offered

Joint resolution relating to the conduct of the existing war and the late proclamation of the President of the United States:
which was read first and second times.

Mr. Perkins moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Upon which motion Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was sustained.

And the yeas and nays are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas . . . 24
Nays . . . 40

Nays . . . 40

Yeas: Arrington, Boyce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Conrow, Ewing, Foster, Heiskell, Holt, Johnston, Kenner, Lander, Lyons, McDowell, McQueen, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Vest, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ayer, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Curry,

Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hilton, Lewis, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Preston, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session;^a and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to whom has been referred the subject of the flour contract of Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co., be instructed to make special inquiry and report as to any connection, official or otherwise, that Major Frank G. Ruffin, of the Commissary Department, may have had with the making or with the benefits of that contract, and that said committee have full power to investigate all matters appertaining to said contract.

On motion of Mr. Holt,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. to-morrow.

EIGHTH DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Doggett.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting copies of the resolutions of the legislatures of South Carolina and Alabama guaranteeing the payment of the war debt of the Confederate States; which were read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, by unanimous consent of the House, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military duty; which was read first and second times.

And the question upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it on the Calendar being decided in the negative.

Mr. Miles moved that the bill be printed and made the special order for to-morrow.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the motion of Mr. Miles by adding thereto the words "and from day to day until disposed of."

The amendment was agreed to, and the motion as amended was adopted.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the motion of Mr. Davis to reconsider the vote by which the House disagreed to the resolution of Mr. Foote providing for the renting of the Exchange Building.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the question; which was sustained; and

Mr. Pugh demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas	30
	{ Nays	37

^aThe Journal of this secret session has not been found.

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Cooke, Currin, Curry, Davis, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, McRae, Miles, Preston, Russell, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ayer, Bridgers, Burnett, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Heiskell, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Foster offered joint resolutions respecting the present war, and the causes leading thereto; which were read first and second times, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. H. W. Bruce,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

The Chair presented a communication from the Secretary of War, covering the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; which was read, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

And on motion of Mr. Clapp,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair presented a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, *Richmond, January 20, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

I have the honor to request that my message, sent to the House at the opening of the session, may be returned to me to change a word which is an error.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Russell,

It was ordered that the message be returned to the President, as requested in the message.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was the consideration of

A bill to authorize a foreign loan.

And the bill having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to complete and carry into effect a certain contract made with Messrs. Erlanger & Co., of Paris, for the purpose of raising, by loan, the sum of seventy-five millions of francs, and to that end he may cause to be issued bonds of the Confederate States, payable twenty years after date, with coupons attached for the payment of interest ahead, at the rate of seven per cent per annum, and also certificates for the delivery of cotton in exchange for the said bonds, the said bonds and certificates to be issued in such form and with such signatures as the said Secretary shall deem proper.

2. An agent, to superintend and conduct all the details of the said loan, shall be appointed by the President, who shall have power to execute the definitive contract and to sign bonds and coupons in behalf of the Government, and to receive and make

all payments, and generally to do all such acts, and execute all such instruments of writing, and receive all such notices as may be necessary and proper for carrying into complete execution the said contract and all things required by the same.

3. The said agent shall have power to appoint such clerks and subordinate agents as may be required for the performance of the various duties and service in and about the said loan, including authority to sign such coupons as may be required by the bonds.

4. The Secretary of the Treasury shall have power to regulate the entire management of the said loan and of all business connected therewith, and to prescribe the form of all bonds and certificates and the modes of issue and transfer; and the appointment and confirmation of all clerks and agents shall be subject to his approval, and they may be dismissed or changed at his discretion. And all officers and agents acting in virtue of this law shall, at times, be bound by any regulations or directions which he may see fit to order,

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the same by striking out the whole thereof and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to negotiate a loan of twenty-five million dollars abroad, on such terms and under such guards as he may deem just and called for by the public interest.

Mr. Davis moved a call of the House.

The motion did not prevail.

Mr. Gartrell demanded the question; which was upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Perkins, and the demand being sustained,

Mr. Foote called for the yeas and nays thereon;

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas-----	14
	{ Nays-----	50

Yeas: Arrington, Bell, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Curry, Davis, Foote, Foster, Perkins, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Staples, and Trippe.

Nays: Ayer, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Strickland, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Perkins moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until Friday next, with a view of obtaining further information from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation thereto.

Mr. Holt demanded the question; which was sustained; and

Mr. Foote called for the yeas and nays;

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas-----	22
	{ Nays-----	44

Yeas: Arrington, Bell, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Menees, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ayer, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Tibbs, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to postpone did not prevail, and the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being on the passage of the same,
Mr. Davis called for the yeas and nays thereon;
Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

} Years	58
} Days	8

Yeas: Arrington, Ayer, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Cooke, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Chilton, Clopton, Curry, Davis, Ewing, Foote, Perkins, and Royston.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Davis moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the proceedings on the passage of the bill.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the rule requiring the bill to lie on the table two days was suspended, and the Clerk was directed to transmit it to the Senate.

And on motion of Mr. Heiskell,

The House resolved itself into secret [open] session.

NINTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by prayer by the Rev. Dr. Doggett.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the morning hour; which was the motion to refer to the Committee on Foreign Affairs joint resolution offered by Mr. Clopton relating to the condition of the existing war and the late proclamation of the President of the United States.

And the motion prevailed.

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have adopted a resolution to amend Joint Resolution No. XVI, of the two Houses, in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Curry introduced

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers," approved May 4, 1861; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Curry presented the memorial of Captain Brandon, claiming compensation for a horse which died of wounds received in battle; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Curry presented the petition of certain sick and wounded soldiers, asking such a change of the law or regulations as will facilitate the granting of furloughs; which was referred to the Committee on the Medical Department, without being read.

Mr. Curry offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of continuing the pay of soldiers and seamen discharged from service on account of wounds received in engagements with the enemy until the expiration of their term of service.

Mr. Foster introduced the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to ascertain (as nearly as practicable) the number of able-bodied young men who are now engaged as principal and agents in each of those departments, and to report, by bill or otherwise, as to the best and most speedy mode of placing all such in the ranks and supplying their places with men over the conscript age and with discharged soldiers.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of abolishing, in part or in whole, camps of instruction.

Mr. Chilton introduced

A bill to refund to the State of Alabama the sum paid by said State for the steamer Florida; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Chilton presented the memorial of M. L. Prewitt, a wounded soldier in Camp Winder, touching furloughs; which was referred to the Committee on the Medical Department, without being read.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the President, if not deemed by him incompatible with the public interests, cause to be transmitted to this House, at the earliest practicable moment, copies of all written evidence of, or relating to, any contract or contracts, and of any change or modification thereof, for supplying the Government with flour, made with Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co. And that in like manner he cause to be transmitted to this House copies of any contracts made during the present winter with the Government for supplies of ice.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation are hereby authorized to employ a clerk to assist them in the discharge of their duties.

Mr. Clopton presented a design for a seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Smith of Alabama offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting some mode by which wounded and disabled soldiers may be furloughed or discharged, and to report to this House by bill or otherwise.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of the day; which was the consideration of

A bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military duty.

And the bill having been read as follows, to wit:

A bill to be entitled "An act to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service."

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the passage of this act all white male residents of the Confederate States between the

ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except those constituting the executive, legislative, and judicial authorities of the Confederate States and of the several States composing the Confederacy are, and shall be, liable to military duty in the service of the Confederate States, and shall be duly enrolled in the same, in accordance with existing laws, and all laws and parts of laws exempting any persons between the said ages of eighteen and forty-five years are hereby repealed: *Provided*, That the Secretary of War shall, upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by him, and with the approval of the President, exempt from all military service, or detail for specified purposes, such person or persons as, with the approval of the President, he may deem essential for the good of the service or the general interests of the country: *And provided further*, That the enrollment of persons between forty and forty-five years of age shall be suspended until the President shall call such persons into the military service,

Mr. Collier moved to amend by striking out the whole of the same and to insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all persons who shall be held unfit for military service in the field by reason of bodily or mental incapacity or imbecility, under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War; the Vice-President of the Confederate States; the officers, judicial and executive, of the Confederate and State governments, including postmasters appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and such clerks in their offices as are allowed by the Postmaster-General and now employed, and excluding all other postmasters, their assistants and clerks; and except such State officers as the several States may have declared, or may hereafter declare, liable to militia duty; the members of both Houses of the Congress of the Confederate States and of the legislatures of the several States and their respective officers; all clerks now in the offices of the Confederate and State governments authorized by law, receiving salaries or fees; all volunteer troops heretofore raised by any State since the passage of the act entitled "An act further to provide for the public defense," approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while such troops shall be in active service under State authority: *Provided*, That this exemption shall not apply to any person who was liable to be called into service by virtue of said act of April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; all pilots and persons engaged in the merchant marine service; the president, superintendents, conductors, treasurer, chief clerk, engineers, managers, station agents, section masters, two expert track hands to each section of eight miles, and mechanics in the active service and employment of railroad companies, not to embrace laborers, porters, and messengers; the president, general superintendent, and operators of telegraph companies, the local superintendent and operators of said companies not to exceed four in number at any locality but that at the seat of government of the Confederate States; the president, superintendents, captains, engineers, chief clerk, and mechanics in the active service and employment of all companies engaged in river and canal navigation, and all captains of boats and engineers therein employed; one editor of each newspaper now being published, and such employees as the editor or proprietor may certify on oath to be indispensable for conducting the publication; the Public Printer and those employed to perform the public printing for the Confederate and State governments; every minister of religion authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect and in the regular discharge of ministerial duties, and all persons who have been and now are members of the Society of Friends and the Association of Dunkards, Nazarenes, and Mennonists in regular membership in their respective denominations: *Provided*, That members of the Society of Friends, Nazarenes, Mennonists, and Dunkards shall furnish substitutes or pay a tax of five hundred dollars each into the public treasury; all physicians who now are and have been for the last five years in actual practice of their profession; all superintendents of public hospitals, lunatic asylums, and the regular physicians, nurses, and attendants therein, and the teachers employed in the institutions for the deaf, dumb, and blind; in each apothecary store now established and doing business, one apothecary in good standing who is a practical apothecary; all superintendents, managers, mechanics, and miners employed in the production and manufacture of salt to the extent of twenty bushels per day, and of lead and iron, and all persons engaged in burning coke, smelting, and manufacture of iron, regular miners in coal mines, and all colliers engaged in making charcoal for making bar and pig iron, not to embrace laborers, messengers, wagoners, and servants, unless employed at works conducted under the authority and by the officers or agents of a State, or in works employed in the production of iron for the Confederate States; also a regiment raised under and by authority of the State of Texas for frontier defense, now in the service of said State, while in such service: *Provided further*, That the exemptions herein above enumerated and granted hereby

shall only continue whilst the persons exempted are actually engaged in their respective pursuits or occupations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of War shall, upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by him, and with the approval of the President, exempt from all military service, or detail for specified purposes, such person or persons as, with the approval of the President, he may deem essential for the good of the service or the general interests of the country: *And provided further*, That the enrollment of persons between forty and forty-five years of age shall be suspended until the President shall call such persons into the military service.

Sec. 2. All acts or parts of acts heretofore passed in conflict with the provisions herein contained are hereby repealed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred sundry bills and memorials on the subject of military exemptions, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that they lie on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole. The motion was lost.

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the original bill by adding at the end thereof the following proviso, to wit:

Provided, however, That each judicial and executive officer of any State who by the laws thereof are or may be liable to perform military service shall not be exempted by virtue of this act.

Mr. Collier moved that all amendments to the bill be printed.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Conrad moved to recommit the bill and all amendments to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to report a bill enumerating classes for exemption.

Upon which motion Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays.

Pending which,

On motion of Mr. Jones.

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings be instructed to rent the necessary committee rooms for the use of the committees of this House, and the furniture necessary for the same.

On motion of Mr. McLean,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair presented a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., January 21, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith return my message sent to you on the 14th instant, calling your attention to the eighth line on the sixth page, where I have substituted the word "sovereign" for "seven," as it previously stood, incorrectly written.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into open session.

TENTH DAY—THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Doggett.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the governor of Virginia, respecting the use of the Capitol by Congress.

Mr. Preston offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the communication of the governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, this day made to this body, be spread upon the minutes, and that in the opinion of this House the governor of the State of Virginia has done all consistent with a sense of duty to add to the comfort of the members and furnish proper accommodation for the deliberations of Congress;

which was read and, together with the communication of the governor of Virginia, was, on motion of Mr. Currin, laid upon the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 1. An act to authorize the appointment of assistants to the Register in signing bonds and certificates;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a resolution of the Senate to amend the joint rules; which was read and referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate, to be entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of assistants to the Register in signing bonds and certificates;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Dargan presented a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of the present passport system, and if in their judgment the necessity should exist to continue the same, then into the propriety of confining the duties on all railroads to the conductors thereof;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foster also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the enrollment and placing into the ranks all sutlers between eighteen and forty-five years of age;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Dargan presented the memorial of J. M. Brown, praying compensation for loss of a steamboat, pressed into service and lost in the service of the Confederate Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Dargan offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire into and report what measures are necessary to secure representation in this body by the States and parts of States now or at any time in the occupancy of the enemy. And that they further report what measures are necessary and proper to preserve the constitutional governments of such States in the hands of those who are loyal to the Confederate States;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garland introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for retaliation upon the Government of the United States for any attempt to execute the proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, dated first January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, or to incite insurrection among any of the slaves of any of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Royston introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase and strengthen the Army of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Royston offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire what legislation, if any, is necessary to prevent commanding generals and other military officers of the Army of the Confederate States from fixing a tariff of prices upon provisions and other productions of the Confederate States, and that they report by bill or otherwise;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Hilton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled 'An act to exempt certain persons from military service,' etc., approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Hilton moved that the rule requiring a reference of the bill to a committee be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation be instructed to inquire into the propriety of enacting a law requiring the Government to furnish transportation for the remains of officers and soldiers who have fallen in the service of their country, and report by bill or otherwise;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill making the requisite appropriation for the increase of the salaries of the civil officers of the Government employed in Richmond, granted by Congress toward the adjournment of its last session, but for which for want of time no appropriation was thus made;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish Congress with copies of the official reports of the battles of Fredericksburg, Murfreesboro, and of all other battles of which reports have not been already rendered, at an early day as practicable;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell presented a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Clark offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the authority exercised by the Secretary of War under the conscription acts by which he has determined that when substitutes become subject to military service the exemption of the principal shall expire;

which was read, and Mr. Clark moved to refer the same to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the motion by striking out the words "Military Affairs" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Judiciary."

Pending the consideration of which,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to be entitled "An act to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service."

The question being on recommitting the bill with instructions to the Committee on Military Affairs,

And the yeas and nays having been demanded thereon by Mr. Miles,

The same were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	39
Nays	35

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Ayer, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Goode, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Barksdale, Boteler, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davis, Ewing, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Heiskell, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Lander, Lyon, McLean, McRae, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Villéré, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the bill was recommitted.

Mr. Hilton moved that the vote recommitting the bill be reconsidered.

Pending the consideration of which,

On motion of Mr. Moore,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

ELEVENTH DAY—FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Doggett.

Mr. Clark having accepted the amendment of Mr. Hilton, the resolution was thereby referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Holt offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Rules be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so changing the rules of this House as to limit debate on bills and resolutions unless the same are before the House for final action, and that said committee report at the earliest practicable day,

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Jones, he was excused from further service on the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House.

Mr. Gartrell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service, and to repeal all acts of exemption heretofore passed;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Strickland presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Dawson County, Ga., praying change of a mail route; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. Strickland also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the visitation and general improvement of hospitals;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs.

Mr. Clark offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Hospitals inquire into and report by what authority sick and wounded soldiers are refused furloughs, and report the remedy; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Moore presented the memorial of John R. Cardwell for loss of slave; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Moore moved that the vote by which a bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled 'An act to exempt certain persons from military service,' etc., approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs be reconsidered; which was agreed to.

And the question recurring on suspending the rule requiring the reference of the bill to a committee, the same was suspended.

Mr. Curry demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Curry demanded the question; which was on the passage of the bill.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 78
 { Nays----- 0

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Ayer, Baldwin, Burksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Cooke, Crockett, Cur-
rin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow,
Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell,
Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis,
Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae,
Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton,
Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strick-
land, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of
Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: None.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Foote,

Rule 42 was suspended, and the bill was sent immediately to the Senate.

Mr. Read introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service;" which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Leave of absence was granted Messrs. Chambliss and Cooke, on account of sickness in their families.

Mr. Machen introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act authorizing the acceptance of troops from the States of Kentucky and Missouri for a term of service less than three years;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Crockett introduced joint resolutions declaring the basis upon which alone peace propositions will be entertained by this Government; which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Crockett moved to refer the same to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Pending the consideration of which,

The hour for the special order of business, which was a bill to declare what persons shall be exempt from military duty, having arrived, the House proceeded to its consideration.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Hilton to reconsider the vote by which the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs,

Mr. McLean demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz:

} Yeas-----	32
} Nays-----	28

Yeas: Boteler, Burnett, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Foster, Garland, Gartrell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Royston, Singleton, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Ayer, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Johnston, McDowell, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the vote was reconsidered.

The question then recurring on the motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs, the same was lost.

Mr. Boyce, by consent, moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 12 o'clock on Monday.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved that the bill and amendments be referred to the Committee of the Whole; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some [time] therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Committee of the Whole have had under consideration the bill referred to them entitled "An act declaring what persons shall be exempt from military duty," and have come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act making appropriations to meet the increase of pay authorized by the act of Congress entitled 'An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments,' approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;"

which was read the first and second times, and

Mr. Kenner moved that the rule requiring the further consideration of the bill to be postponed and that it be placed upon the Calendar be suspended; which was agreed to.

Mr. Kenner also moved a suspension of the rule which required the consideration of the bill in Committee of the Whole; which was agreed to, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform Congress, if not incompatible with the public interest, what steps, if any, have been taken to procure the liberation or exchange of persons who, taken from civil life, have been transported and confined beyond the limits of the Confederacy, and also whether any and what persons so confined have at the instance of this Government been set at liberty;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chilton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for refunding to the State of Alabama the amount overpaid by said State on account of the war tax of eighteen hundred and sixty-two;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether Richard Thomas, otherwise called Colonel Zarvona, was an officer of the Confederate Army at the time of his capture, under what circumstances he was captured, if those circumstances be known to the President, and why he has not been exchanged;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Clapp,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock on Monday.

TWELFTH DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Peterkin.

On motion, leave was granted Messrs. Chambliss, Trippe, Elliott, and Cooke, who were detained from the House on Friday, to record their votes on the passage of

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled 'An act to exempt certain persons from military service,' etc., approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, inclosing a statement of the Register of the Treasury in answer to a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to report "the amount of Treasury notes of each class and description and also the amount of bonds bearing 8 per cent interest, etc., issued and outstanding on the 13th day of October last," etc.; which was read and, with its accompanying documents, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Johnston, the same was ordered to be printed.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the joint resolutions offered by Mr. Crockett declaring the basis upon which alone peace propositions will be entertained by this Government.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Crockett to refer the same to the Committee on Military Affairs,

Mr. Foote moved to amend the motion by striking out the word "Military" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Foreign."

On motion of Mr. Clopton, the further consideration of the same was postponed until the special order of business is disposed of.

Mr. Boyce, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means to inquire and report as to the expediency of raising as large an amount as practicable by excise and stamp duties, and assessed and income and capitation taxes;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Perkins, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to furnish Congress with copies of the findings of the general court-martial held at headquarters, Richmond, for the month of January, in the cases of persons charged with desertion and absence without leave.

Resolved further, That he be requested to state under which of the rules and regulations for the government of the Army of the Confederate States, Private L. B. Seymour, Company E, Fiftieth North Carolina, was sentenced for desertion to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back every three months for the period of the war, to be branded in the left hand with the letter "D," and to be put to hard labor in Richmond, with ball and chain, for the balance of the war;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Perkins, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to abolish flogging, or punishment by the lash, in the Army of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Perkins also, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the law regarding substitutes;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Perkins, also by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the second section of an act entitled 'An act to provide for the safe custody, printing, publication, and distribution of the laws, and to provide for the appointment of an additional clerk in the Department of Justice,' approved August fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Printing.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison.

Mr. Perkins, by unanimous consent, presented a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., January 24, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, forwarding for your information copies of certain reports of military operations, being a response, in part, to your resolution of the 22d instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Miles moved that the rule requiring a motion to print an extra number of copies of the same to be referred to the Committee on Printing be suspended; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved that 1,000 copies of the message and its accompanying documents be printed.

Mr. Holt moved to refer the whole subject to the Committee on Printing.

The motion was lost, and the motion to print agreed to.

The hour for the consideration of the special order having arrived,

Mr. Lyons moved a postponement of the same.

The motion was lost, and

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Curry in the chair, on a bill to be entitled "An act to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service;" and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the bill referred to them and had arrived at no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House then resolved itself into secret session;^a and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion of Mr. Holt,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

THIRTEENTH DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Moore.

On motion of Mr. Garland, leave of absence was granted Mr. Atkins of Tennessee, on account of illness.

Mr. Jones, the Delegate from the Choctaw Nation, by consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That there be printed, for distribution to the different Indian tribes within the bounds of the Confederate States, two hundred additional copies of the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote, by consent, presented a letter from the Surgeon-General in relation to ice contracts entered into by the Government; which was read and referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the joint resolution offered by Mr. Crockett.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Foote to amend the motion of Mr. Crockett,

Mr. Breckinridge demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Foote, by consent, withdrew his motion to amend, and the motion of Mr. Crockett was agreed to.

^aThe Journal of this secret session has not been found.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed by the Senate to request the House of Representatives to direct their Clerk to cause all bills and joint resolutions to be numbered in consecutive order, making no distinction between those introduced in open legislative session and those originating in secret session, the present manner of numbering said bills and resolutions producing confusion in the Journals of the Senate.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison.

On motion of Mr. Dupré,

The House took from the table for consideration

A bill to be entitled "An act to consolidate regiments," etc., and referred the same to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. McLean offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interests, in what States of the Confederacy the conscript law has been or is now being enforced, and whether any State or States of the Confederacy have been exempted from its operation. And also whether any State or States of the Confederacy have in its or their service any number of troops as reserved State forces which have been raised out of persons at the time subject to the conscript acts;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Vest, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the transfer of troops, and to repeal an act entitled 'An act in relation to the transfer of troops,' approved September twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation be directed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the exemption of such contracts as have been or may hereafter be made with State authorities for the supply of clothing to the troops from such States, from the late act abolishing commutation therefor, approved October eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and to report by bill or otherwise;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to organize the Department of State,' approved February twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. McDowell presented the memorial of John A. Barnes, of North Carolina, praying compensation for services rendered as surgeon; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. McDowell also presented a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent from their commands without leave, and providing compensation to their captors;"

which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act relative to prisoners of war;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Miles also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to allow minors to hold commissions in the armies of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the appointment of additional quartermasters in the Provisional Army;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the strength and efficiency of heavy artillery for coast defenses, and other purposes;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the compensation for horses killed in battle, and of providing for compensation for horses lost or disabled in service, where no fault attaches to the owners thereof, and to report by bill or otherwise; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of diminishing the number of partisan ranger corps now in service, and improving the efficiency of their organization, and to report by bill or otherwise; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. McQueen introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish the general staff of the Army of the Confederate States;'" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Farrow presented a communication from R. S. Chick relative to the payment of the war tax by refugees; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

Mr. Farrow also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act relative to orders from heads of Departments;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee presented a letter from W. V. Thompson, Ninth Battalion Tennessee Cavalry, praying the passage of an act to pay for horses lost in service; which was read and referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Swan moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the resolution offered by Mr. Miles relative to the loss of horses was agreed to. The motion was lost.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the privilege accorded by this House to certain committees of this House to report at any time be withdrawn;

which was read and laid on the table, under the rules.

Mr. Heiskell also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That this House will, on Thursday, the twenty-ninth of the present month, at one o'clock, take up the Calendar and dispose of the same regularly;

which was read and laid on the table, under the rules.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire into the facts and circumstances connected with the large accumulation of commissary supplies at Manassas and in that vicinity, just before the evacuation of that post by our army, and that said committee particularly inquire whether such accumulation of supplies at that place, at the period specified, was in accordance with the advice of General Johnston, or in opposition thereto; and also that said committee do inquire whether the flour accumulated in the vicinity mentioned was flour ground in the country immediately proximate to the position of our army, or flour ground in the neighborhood of Richmond, at higher price than flour was then commanding in the neighborhood of the army, and transported at great additional expense to the place where it was needed;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire into the amount of losses, in commissary and quartermaster's supplies, at Nashville, Clarksville, Bowling Green, and Manassas, upon the evacuation of those places by our army, with such particulars as may enable Congress to understand whether those losses were necessarily incurred, or were the result of official neglect or mismanagement;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire whether or not great abuses have occurred in the transportation service, whereby persons connected in speculative operations have been allowed, by the connivance of persons in the employment of the Government, to transport commodities on their own account, to the exclusion of others, and even of the Government itself, whereby great public mischief has accrued;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote introduced joint resolutions entitled "Joint resolutions in regard to the Emperor of the French;" which were read the first and second times.

Mr. Dargan moved that the rule requiring a reference of the same to a committee be suspended.

Upon which Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 45
Nays ----- 31

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bell, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Clark, Collier, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Jones, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Vest, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clifton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, McLean, Perkins, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the rule was not suspended.

Mr. Lyons, by unanimous consent, offered an amendment, by way of substitute; which was, together with the joint resolutions, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Foote offered joint resolutions in relation to the bringing about a termination of the present war; which were read the first and second times and, on motion of Mr. Conrad, were laid upon the table.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Whereas it is understood that grave doubts have been expressed in several quarters touching a settlement alleged to have been made in regard to a large amount of tobacco supposed to be in the ownership of one Auguste Belmont, of the city of New York, whereby said tobacco has been released from the operation of the confiscation acts of this Government, the Committee on the Judiciary are instructed to inquire fully into all the particulars of said transaction, and to recommend such action in the premises as they shall deem judicious and proper;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session;^a and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FOURTEENTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Moore.

On motion of Mr. Conrow, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Bell, on account of illness.

Mr. Sexton offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency and propriety of providing by law, to such an extent as may be within the power of Congress, for the disfranchisement of all such persons, resident citizens of the Confederate States, as may be clearly shewn to have refused to aid us in our present struggle for independence, or who may in any way have aided or assisted our enemies;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Sexton presented a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Wright of Texas presented the memorial of G. Hodge and S. H. McFarland, praying compensation for the purchase of mules; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Wright [of Texas] presented several designs for a flag; which were referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Gray offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary consider of the expediency of so amending the sequestration laws as to authorize the judges of the courts in their discretion to postpone sales of confiscated lands and other property during the war;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gray also introduced

^a The Journal of this secret session has not been found.

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act to establish the judicial courts of the Confederate States of America, approved sixteenth March, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Gray also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act declaring the legal invalidity of all acts and proceedings affecting the rights of citizens, done under authority of the public enemy within any State or locality temporarily under their control or in their possession;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Collier presented the memorial of sundry ladies of the county of Powhatan, Va., praying a continuance of the law exempting physicians; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Collier offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the law of last session entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," as invests said courts with civil jurisdiction "as to all offenses defined as crimes by the laws of the Confederate States or of the several States, and when beyond the territory of the Confederate States, to all cases of murder, manslaughter, arson, rape, robbery, and larceny, as defined by the common law, when committed by any private or officer in the Army of the Confederate States against any other private or officer in the Army or against the property or person of any citizen or other person not in the Army;"

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Holcombe presented the memorial of sundry post chaplains, asking fuel and quarters, etc.; which was referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, without being read.

Mr. Holcombe also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of embracing money at interest among the subjects of taxation, and of so discriminating as to impose a heavier burthen upon creditors who have refused to receive payment of their debts in Confederate Treasury notes;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act fixing the time for the election of members of the House of Representatives of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Elections.

On motion of Mr. Heiskell, the vote referring the bill to the Committee on Elections was reconsidered, and the same was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Boteler introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the appointment of a superintendent of laboratories;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Boteler also presented the memorial of J. W. Cooley, of Frederick County, Va., relating to the impressment of his cattle; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, leave was granted him to withdraw from the files of the Committee on Claims the memorial, etc., of Johnson Orrick.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of requiring debtors against whom judgments or decrees are rendered as garnishees under the sequestration laws, to pay or secure the same without delay;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Russell also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of providing, by means of retaliation or otherwise, for the protection of unarmed citizens of the Confederate States from injuries committed by the enemy to enforce a claim of allegiance to the United States or otherwise in violation of the usages of war between independent nations;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Staples presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Newbern, Va., in reference to partisan rangers; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Staples introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill authorizing the settlement and payment of claims for property taken or purchased from citizens for the use of the Confederate armies, and for which receipts and vouchers were not given in the manner prescribed by the rules and regulations of the War Department;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Johnston presented the memorial of Capt. Ben. Desha, praying compensation for guns; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of the families of the noncommissioned officers and privates of the Confederate Army;" which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lyons also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for funding the currency of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Lyons presented the petition of Joseph S. Walthall, praying compensation for services rendered in the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Hanover County, Va., praying the exemption of a mail carrier; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Medical Department inquire into the expediency of allowing to sick and wounded officers hospital accommodations as well as rations without charge;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Lyons also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Clerk of this House do procure from the Department of Justice five copies of the acts of the Provisional, and five copies of the acts of this Congress, which have been published, and to cause the same to be bound for the use of this House and marked "House of Representatives of the Confederate States;"

which was read and agreed to.

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette,

combe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Tibbs, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was upon ordering the bill to a third reading, and the demand being sustained, the bill was read a third time;

When,

Mr. Jones called the question; which was upon the passage of the bill, and the demand being sustained,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 56
 { Nays 18

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Tibbs, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Chilton, Clopton, Curry, Davis, Foote, Foster, Hanly, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Marshall, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Swan, and Wilcox.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Conrad offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House in secret session what contracts have been made for the construction of vessels abroad, for what amount, and when and where to be paid for, and by virtue of what laws; also what progress has been made toward the fulfillment of the contract entered into in August, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, with Messrs. Lawson & Co., of England, for the construction of certain iron-plated steamers.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to furnish Congress with a statement of the extent and character of the present indebtedness of the Confederate Government in foreign parts and of the particular contracts whose execution are dependent upon the negotiation of a foreign loan; also the amount of cotton now owned by the Government, upon which the proposed loan is based, and its cost per pound.

Mr. Vest moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the message of the President requesting the return of his message sent to Congress at the commencement of the session.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Sexton,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTEENTH DAY—THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Moore.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 27, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of funds required by the Ordnance Bureau.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Vest, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Cooke, on account of illness.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the taking of testimony in certain criminal cases;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Russell, by consent, presented the memorial of W. B. Compton, praying compensation for services rendered; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Curry presented the memorial of Capt. J. D. Brandon, praying compensation for a horse lost in the service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Curry also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill levying duties on exports:

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. De Jarnette presented, by consent, a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Clopton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal the laws of naturalization;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Chilton presented the memorial of Appleton Haygood, praying compensation for mail services; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Smith of Alabama presented the memorial of Lient. H. H. Cribbs, praying compensation for a horse killed in action; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be requested to inquire into the expediency of repairing the Nashville and Decatur Railroad, from Columbia, Tennessee, to Decatur, Alabama;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foster also introduced joint resolutions tendering the thanks of Congress to General Wheeler and the officers and men under his command; which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Foster moved that the rule requiring the resolution to be referred to a committee be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the joint resolution was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That secret sessions be done away with, and that all business transacted by this House shall for the future be with open doors;

which was read and laid over, under the rules.

Mr. Royston introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to reorganize and promote the efficiency of the medical branch of the military service;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Medical Department.

Mr. Royston offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be requested to report back to this House a bill referred to them at its last session, making provision for the maintenance and support of indigent widows and other indigent families having sons or husbands in the Army of the Confederate States;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Holt offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be requested to inquire if there be any sufficient provisions under existing laws for the punishment of forgeries of paroles, furloughs, etc., and if no such provisions exist, to prepare and report a bill for the punishment of such offenses;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill providing for the payment of provost-marshals appointed from civil life, for services actually rendered;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell presented a letter from C. B. Wellburn, of Dalton, Ga., in relation to the payment of provost-marshals appointed from civil life; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Gartrell also offered a resolution as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a mail route from Cave Springs, in Floyd County, to Cedartown, in Polk County, in the State of Georgia;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Georgia introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent the conscription of officers resigning their commands on account of wounds received or diseases contracted in the service of their country;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Wright also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide compensation for horses lost in the service of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Trippe presented the memorial of Messrs. Sparkes and Thigpen, chaplains, praying Congress to bestow rank and uniform upon chaplains in the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Conrad offered the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether one Broadwell has been authorized to make purchases of various supplies, particularly of sugar and salt, for the Commissary Department; if yea, whether said Broadwell holds any office in said Department, and what office.

Also, what amount of sugar and salt, respectively, has been purchased by said Broadwell, and what amount expended by him in making such purchases.

Also, whether said Broadwell was authorized to impress and did impress steamboats and railroads and their appurtenances for the transportation of supplies so purchased by him.

Also, whether said Broadwell was authorized to trade with the enemy; if yea, to what extent and on what conditions, and whether such trade was carried on by him, and to what extent.

Also, whether said Broadwell was or was not an agent for the Government for any other purposes than those above specified; particularly whether he was authorized to act as a disbursing officer of the Commissary Department and the depositary of its funds; if yea, what amount has at various times been disbursed by or deposited with him in said capacities, or either of them.

Also, to transmit to this body copies of all powers, orders, or instructions given to said Broadwell, and of all correspondence between the Commissary-General and said Broadwell.

Also, whether any complaints or charges have been made against said Broadwell for fraud, peculation, or other malfeasance or misconduct on the part of said Broadwell in the execution of the powers conferred on him; and if yea, what action, if any, has been taken on such charges or complaints;

which were read and agreed to.

Mr. Read, by consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings be instructed to cause the gallery in this House to be removed.

Mr. Preston moved to refer the same to the Committee on Public Buildings.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the motion by instructing the committee to inquire whether a rearrangement of this Hall can be made which will be more comfortable to the members.

The amendment was agreed to.

The question being on the motion to refer the resolution as amended to the Committee on Public Buildings.

Mr. Read demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas..... 45
 } Nays..... 40

Yeas: Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davis, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Preston, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Swan, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Hodge, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lander, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Moore, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, and Vest.

So the resolution was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of this House of the following title, viz: H. R. 4. An act making appropriations to meet the increase of pay authorized by the act of Congress entitled "An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments," approved October 13, 1862.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Clerk; which is as follows, viz:

Hon. THOS. S. BOCK,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SIR: According to instructions of the House of Representatives, adopted yesterday, "That the Clerk of this House do procure from the Department of Justice five copies of the acts of the Provisional, and five copies of the acts of this Congress, which have been published, and to cause the same to be bound for the use of this House and marked 'House of Representatives of the Confederate States,' " I have the honor to report that I applied to the Department for the copies of the acts and was informed by Mr. Matthews, the law clerk of the Department, that there were no copies of the acts of the second and third sessions of the Provisional Congress to be had, and only two copies of the acts of the fourth session.

The other acts that I was instructed to call for have been delivered.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT E. DIXON, *Clerk.*

RICHMOND, VA., *January 29, 1863.*

On motion of Mr. Lyons, the communication was referred to the Committee on Public Printing, with instructions to ascertain what means may be necessary to obtain copies of the acts specified.

Mr. Kemmer, by consent, presented the memorial of Dr. Henry Perkins, praying compensation for property seized by officers of the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Attorney-General be requested to furnish to this House as many copies of the acts of the present Congress as will furnish three copies for each member; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Royston called for the special order of the day.

Mr. Dupré moved that the consideration of the same be postponed.

The motion was lost, and

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Curry in the chair, on a bill to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that the committee had had under consideration the bill referred to them and had arrived at no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The House then again resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Curry in the chair, on a bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military service; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that the committee had had under consideration the bill referred to them and had arrived at no conclusion thereon.

On motion,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Jones moved that the rule requiring bills and joint resolutions to lie on the table for two days after their passage for the purpose of allowing motions to reconsider the same be suspended.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained, and the motion to suspend the rules prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The Clerk was directed to transmit to the Senate Senate bill (9) entitled "An act to authorize a foreign loan."

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:
S. 16. An act to authorize the issue of bonds to the Bank of Louisiana.

The Chair laid before the House Senate bill (16) to authorize the issue of bonds to the Bank of Louisiana; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

And on motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into open session.

SIXTEENTH DAY—FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Moore.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Attorney-General, stating that he was prevented by law from furnishing the acts of the present Congress called for by resolution of this House; which was read and referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Dupré introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act relating to the prepayment of postage in certain cases;'" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Dupré also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the members of this House draw again for seats in this Hall immediately.

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the question being on agreeing to the resolution,

Mr. Vest demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 54
Nays----- 28

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Ayer, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Gardenhire, Gattrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Boteler, Breckinridge, Burnett, Clark, Clopton, Con-

row, Dargan, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Hanly, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, and Wright of Georgia.

So the resolution was agreed to.

On motion, the drawing for seats was in the following manner, viz:

The number of each seat to be put in a hat, and a page to draw a number therefrom, on the call (alphabetically) of the name of a member.

The members respectively having drawn seats,

Mr. Dargan offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That when this House adjourns to-day it shall adjourn to meet at twelve o'clock on Monday next.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	Yeas	47
	Nays	34

Yeas: Atkins, Ayer, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Freeman, Goode, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Staples, Strickland, Swan, and Wright of Georgia.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

An act making appropriations to meet the increase of pay authorized by the act of Congress entitled "An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments," approved October 13, 1862.

And the same was signed by the Speaker.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison.

Mr. Miles called for the order of the day.

Mr. Foote moved to postpone the consideration of the same.

The motion to postpone was lost, and the House proceeded to the consideration of the special order.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military service, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the bill referred to them and had arrived at no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Holcombe, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize and regulate impressments of private property," etc.;

which was read the first and second times and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Russell,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,
Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled a Senate bill to authorize a foreign loan.
And the Speaker signed the same.
And on motion of Mr. Jones,
The House resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTEENTH DAY—MONDAY. FEBRUARY 2, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Brown.

On motion of Mr. Holcombe, the bill to be entitled "An act to authorize and regulate impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes" was made the special order of business for the morning hour of Thursday next.

Mr. Kenner, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Government for the period from February first to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to supply deficiencies arising prior thereto;"

which was read the first and second times and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the same was made the special order of business for the morning hour to-morrow, and to be continued during the morning hour from day to day until concluded.

Mr. Conrad introduced

A joint resolution to provide a homestead for the officers and privates of the Army of the Confederate States;
which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Conrad moved to refer the same to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the motion by striking out the words "Committee on Military Affairs" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "a special committee to consist of one member from each State."

The amendment was agreed to, and the motion as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, by consent, introduced joint resolutions to provide for the support of officers and privates disabled in the service of the Government; which were read the first and second times.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the same by adding thereto as an additional section the following, viz:

That the committee also inquire into the propriety of providing with artificial limbs all such soldiers as may have lost any of their limbs in the military service.

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolutions as amended were referred to the special committee of one from each State.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 12. An act to provide for continuing in service seamen and ordinary seamen now in the service of the Confederate States;

S. 19. An act to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department; and

S. 25. An act to change the title of engineers in the Navy;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to report on that portion of the President's message which recommends that indemnity be provided for those whose property has been destroyed by order of the Government; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Perkins also introduced several memorials from sundry citizens of Louisiana, praying indemnity for property destroyed; which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

Mr. Barksdale offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the President be requested to furnish this body, if not incompatible with the public interest, with copies of the correspondence between Major-General Lovell and the War Department in reference to the defenses of New Orleans from the twenty-fifth day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, to the date of the surrender of that city.

Mr. Davis moved to amend the same by striking out all after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That a committee of five be appointed to inquire into the causes of the fall of New Orleans and ascertain if any person is blamable for it, and if so, who.

Mr. Dargan moved to lay the resolution and amendment on the table.

Upon which Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 37
Nays ----- 48

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chrisman, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Gray, Hartridge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McLean, Moore, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Ayer, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Tibbs, Trippe, and Villeré.

So the House refused to lay the same upon the table.

Mr. Royston called for the order of the day.

Mr. Foote moved to postpone the consideration of the same.

The motion was lost.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business, and resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Curry in the chair, on a bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military service: and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the bill referred to them and had arrived at no conclusion thereon.

The Chair laid before the House the following bills of the Senate, viz:

A bill to change the title of engineers in the Navy; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

A bill to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department;
which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

A bill to provide for continuing in service seamen and ordinary seamen now in the service of the Confederate States;
which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, informing the House that the President on the 30th ultimo approved and signed an act entitled

An act making appropriations to meet the increase of pay authorized by the act of Congress entitled "An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments," approved October 13, 1862.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, a resolution offered by him to change the rules in relation to the call of States was taken up and referred to the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

EIGHTEENTH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crumly.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the governor of Florida, transmitting a resolution in relation to the present war, passed by the general assembly of that State at its late session; which was read and, with the accompanying resolution, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Kenner moved to postpone the consideration of the special order, viz:

A bill making appropriations for the support of the Government for the period from February 1 to June 30, 1863, inclusive, and to supply deficiencies arising prior thereto.

The motion was agreed to.

The House then took up for consideration the unfinished business of the morning hour of yesterday; which was the resolution offered by Mr. Barksdale.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Davis,

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the resolution by adding thereto the following words, viz:

Also copies of all correspondence between the President or the Secretaries of War and Navy and the governor of Louisiana on the same subject.

Mr. Barksdale accepted the amendment.

Mr. Davis withdrew the amendment offered by him.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the resolution as modified was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to inquire into the propriety and necessity of legislation to repress the vice of gambling in the Army, and to report by bill or otherwise;

which was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp also introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire whether officers and employees connected with these departments are not in the habit of obtaining supplies for their families from these departments at Government prices; and, if so, by what authority this privilege is allowed by them;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Davis introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act granting transportation to troops who have volunteered for the war;"

which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Davis moved that the rule requiring the reference of the bill to a committee be suspended.

Mr. Holt called for the special order.

On motion of Mr. Curry, the same was postponed.

The motion to suspend the rule was agreed to, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Davis, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the Clerk was directed to report the bill to the Senate immediately.

Mr. Swan moved to further postpone the consideration of the special order of business until the conclusion of the call of States.

The motion was lost.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison.

Mr. Gray, by consent, offered

A joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. Bankhead Magruder and officers and men of his command at Galveston, Tex.;

which was read the first and second times and, on motion of Mr. Miles, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Ayer, by consent, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. William S. Walker and his command for good conduct and gallantry in the battles of Pocotaligo and Coosawhatchie;

which was read the first and second times and, on motion of Mr. Miles, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., February 3, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War in response to your resolution of the 27th ultimo.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also laid before the House the following communication from the President, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., February 3, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War in reference to the examination and appointment of ordnance officers, being a response to your resolution asking for information upon the subject.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the special order be postponed until after the call of States shall be concluded.

The motion was lost.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order, and resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military service, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the bill referred to them, and reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with sundry amendments.

Mr. Dargan moved that the bill and amendments be recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Pending the consideration of which,

Mr. Lyons, by consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That as a mark of the respect which this House entertains for the patriotic and military services of Major-General Sterling Price, that the Speaker do invite him to take a seat upon the floor of this House;

which was read and unanimously agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That so much of the call of this House on the President as requests him to send the papers relating to the contract made with Haxall, Crenshaw & Co., for flour, be rescinded, as such papers have been furnished the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments by the Commissary-General;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Holt,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 29th instant, approve and sign a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 9. An act to authorize a foreign loan.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in response to a resolution of inquiry of the House as to the extent and character of the foreign indebtedness of the Confederate Government, and the execution of such contracts as were dependent upon the negotiation of a foreign loan; which was read and laid on the table.

The Speaker stated that he had received a verbal communication from the Doorkeeper of the House that much dissatisfaction is occasionally expressed by the members of this House at their seats being occupied by visitors. There being no extra seats in the House, a spectator seated in the Hall must, necessarily, occupy the seat of some member.

In the beginning of the Congress, the Speaker, under rule 4, had required that no one not specially entitled to the privileges of the Hall should be admitted on the floor without his express permission. The object of this order was to have inquiry always made whether vacant seats could be found for those applying for admission, before being

granted. The members have disregarded this order and much complaint is the result.

The Chair submits the subject for the advice and order of the House; Whereupon,

On motion of Mr. Kenan of Georgia, it was unanimously resolved that the House will leave it to the Speaker to make such order as he may make for the correction of the evil complained of.

And on motion of Mr. Clapp,

The House resolved itself into open session.

NINETEENTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Hodge, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, and for other purposes;"

which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Read, by consent, introduced the following resolution, viz:

Whereas, in the reports of Generals Bragg and Beauregard of the battle of Shiloh, honorable and meritorious mention is made of the services of the Kentucky brigade commanded by Colonel R. P. Trabue, but in the printed reports furnished to this House an error appears in the name of that gallant officer: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to cause the Public Printer, in any copies of said report that may hereafter be furnished to this House, to cause the name of Colonel R. P. Trabue to be properly printed in connection with the command of the Kentucky brigade in the battle of Shiloh;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Holt, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of slaves, horses, and other property lost, captured, or destroyed in the military service of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Collier, by consent, introduced joint resolutions of thanks to Gen. Roger A. Pryor and the officers and men under his command for gallant conduct and signal success over the enemy at Kelly's, near the Blackwater, Va.: which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Gardenhire, leave of absence was granted Mr. Tibbs, on account of illness.

Mr. Kenner called for the order of the day, and

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole. Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to be entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Government for the period from February first to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, inclusive, and to supply deficiencies arising prior thereto;" and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported back the bill, with the recommendation that it pass.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the Clerk was directed to report the bill immediately to the Senate.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison.

The Chair laid before the House the following communication from the President, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 4, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, submitting estimates for the Indian service to June 30, 1863.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount and for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 4, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering reports from the Surgeon-General and the Chief of Engineers, in response to your resolution of the 23d ultimo.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, ordered to be printed, and, with its accompanying documents, referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to report a bill from the Committee on the Judiciary; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with sundry amendments.

The bill was taken up for consideration, and having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That whenever a committee shall be raised by either the Senate or House of Representatives of the Confederate Congress, or a joint committee of both Houses, or any standing committee of either House, shall be charged with the duty of investigating any matter referred to such committee, with power to send for and examine witnesses touching the matter of inquiry so referred, the chairman of such committee, or in his absence, the member of such committee presiding over it for the time being, shall have power to issue summons for compelling the attendance upon such committees, respectively, of all witnesses whom they may desire to examine, which summons shall in case of joint committee be executed by the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, and in other cases by the Sergeant-at-Arms or Doorkeeper of the House to which such committee may belong, and the return of such officer indorsed in writing on the said summons as to whether the same was executed or not shall be evidence of the fact so returned, and in case any witness who has been duly summoned as aforesaid shall fail or refuse to attend before such committee in obedience to such summons, without a sufficient excuse therefor, he shall be guilty of a contempt against the authority of the body or bodies raising such committee, and on report of such failure or refusal by the chairman of such committee to the House to which such committee is required to respond, such House may call the delinquent before its bar and punish him in a fine*

not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the Chairman, or in his absence, the member of such committees, respectively, as may preside over the deliberations thereof for the time being, shall have power to administer oaths to the witnesses to be examined before any such committees, and every person so sworn and examined before any such committee, who shall willfully, knowingly, and corruptly depose falsely in any matter material to the inquiry referred to and then pending before such committee, shall be guilty of perjury, and upon indictment in any court of competent jurisdiction and conviction thereof, shall suffer all the penalties prescribed by the existing laws to be inflicted on persons guilty of said offense.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That said committees, respectively, shall have power in case the witness whose testimony is desired resides without the city of Richmond, to issue through their chairman, or person presiding in his absence, a commission or *dedimus potestatem* directed to one or more discreet persons, signed by such chairman or presiding officer and accompanied by such written interrogatories to be propounded to the witness as the committee shall adjudge necessary to elicit the information desired, directing such person or persons, or either one of them, to summon said witness to appear before him or them at a time and place to be designated in such summons, and then and there after causing said witness to be duly sworn, to take down distinctly in writing the answers of such witness to the interrogatories attached to said commission or *dedimus potestatem*, which shall be subscribed by the witness so examined and certified and sealed up, with the commission and interrogatories, and inclosed by mail to the chairman of such committee by the commissioner or commissioners so taking the same. And such commissioner shall be entitled to the same fee now allowed by law to commissioners taking depositions under authority from the district courts of the Confederate States in the State where the deposition may be taken, to be paid upon the certificate of the chairman of said committees, respectively, out of the contingent fund of Congress,

Mr. Gartrell, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the bill as follows, viz:

In the first section, strike out the words "shall be;" also the words "by the Sergeant-at-Arms." After the words "may belong," in the first section, insert the words "or such person as the presiding officer of such committee may depute for that purpose."

At the end of the last section add the words "and the said witness in default shall also be reported to the presiding officer of such committee, who may proceed against him thereon, as herein provided for witnesses summoned to appear before the said committee:" which were agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the last section of the bill by inserting after the word "sum" the words "not exceeding five thousand dollars and imprisoned for a time not less than two nor more than five years, as the court may adjudge."

Mr. Dargan moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill and amendments, that the same be printed, and made the special order of business for Monday next; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Collier,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TWENTIETH DAY—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crumly.

Mr. Farrow announced the presence of Mr. Simpson, a Representative-elect from the State of South Carolina, who came forward, was duly qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. Clapp presented a memorial of John M. Sharp, of Kentucky, praying reimbursement for the destruction of a bridge; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Singleton offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the following propositions, viz:

First. The expediency of a recommendation by Congress to the several States of the Confederacy, that they prohibit by law foreign-born persons, not naturalized, from holding real estate within their respective borders.

Secondly. The constitutionality and expediency of an act of Congress requiring every foreign-born person, not naturalized, before he shall engage in trade or commerce within the Confederate States, to obtain license for that purpose, upon paying into the Treasury of the Confederacy a sum to be specified by law, and that he be further required to render, from time to time, an account, under oath, of the net proceeds arising from such trade or commerce, upon which he shall be taxed a certain per cent;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the House the number and amount of claims for vessels seized by order of the naval and military authorities for the public use, filed in the War and Navy Departments and in the office of the First Auditor of the Treasury Department, the names of the claimants, the time when severally filed, and the estimated sum required for their payment;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina also offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to report a bill providing for the payment of the amount due the State of North Carolina for clothing furnished the troops of the State, according to the act, numbered two hundred and fifty-six, audited in the Second Auditor's Office;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the auditing and payment of claims for cotton and other property destroyed by the military authorities of the Confederate Government, or by its owners, to prevent the same from falling into the hands of the enemy;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to inquire whether the organized forces of our invading army, captured in the act of carrying out the declared policy of their Government, can be held amenable in consonance with the principles of public law and the usage of nations to the criminal laws of the invaded country, and be dealt with as felons by its civil tribunals; and if not, what legislation is required to enable the military authorities of the Confederate States, by measures of reprisal and retaliation, to repress the atrocities of an instigated servile insurrection.

Mr. Jones demanded the question; which was ordered, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Smith also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be directed to consider the expediency of raising a revenue to support the Government and pay the interest on the public debt, to be devised principally by an assessment upon the following subjects of taxation, viz:

First. The product of the farm, forest, and sea, and the increase in value of stock not required for the use and consumption of the producer and owner.

Second. The net proceeds from investments of money and other capital in manufacturing, mining, mechanical, and other industrial operations carried on by associated capital or hired labor.

Third. The dividends and profits earned by railroad, banking, and other private corporations, to be paid by the corporations.

Fourth. Money at interest, except when invested in State securities.

Fifth. Salaries and fees of all officers, State and Confederate, except such as are paid out of the treasury of the several States, and except noncommissioned officers and privates.

Sixth. The profits of speculation and the enhanced value of all property bought for resale;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to establish a bureau in connection with the War Department, to be known as the Bureau of Transportation;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Bridgers offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of taxing the incomes of speculators, extortioners, and others receiving large profits;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Bridgers also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, It shall not be in order for a member introducing a resolution, or bill, or making a motion, or at the conclusion of his remarks upon any question pending, to call the question;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House.

Mr. Lewis moved a suspension of the rules to enable the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House to make a report.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Ayer offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means to inquire and report, by bill or otherwise, on the expediency of levying an export duty on tobacco and naval stores, similar to the export duty levied on cotton, for the purpose of paying the war debt of the Confederate States;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Capt. D. N. Ingraham and the officers and men of his command;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Miles also introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel Yates and the officers and men of his command;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing compensation by law to the owners of slaves escaping or captured by the enemy, when such slaves are in the employment of the Confederate Government and engaged on works of military defense;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of regulating by law the subject of naturalization of foreigners, with a

view to such discrimination against persons not now citizens of the Confederate States as may best tend to promote the stability and purity of our political and social institutions;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Holcombe,

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize and regulate impressments of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes," was taken up and made the special order of business for Friday, February 6, 1863, to be continued from day to day until concluded.

Mr. Goode called for the special order of business.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the consideration of the same was postponed until after the call of States should be concluded.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of framing such legislation for the regulation of navigation and the coasting trade as may best subserve the true interests of the Confederate States upon the reestablishment of unrestricted commercial intercourse with foreign nations;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Farrow offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire and report on the expediency of putting in operation the mint at Charlotte, in the State of North Carolina;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire whether it be not inexpedient to attempt the execution of the retaliatory policy upon the forces of the enemy found upon Southern soil, armed for the execution of the late incendiary proclamation of President Lincoln;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing, by some general act, for the indemnification of those citizens who have been subjected to pecuniary loss by the destruction of cotton, tobacco, and other agricultural products, by the act of our own Government, in order to keep the same out of the hands of the enemy, and report by bill or otherwise;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire particularly into the existing condition of the transportation service on the line of railroad extending from Vicksburg, Mississippi, to Mobile, Alabama, and report to the House the facts of the case, in order that the proper remedy herein may be promptly applied; and also to inquire into the same subject in reference to the line of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, from Meridian to Okalona, in the State of Mississippi, and the line of railroad from Richmond, Virginia, to Charleston, South Carolina.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "a special committee, consisting of five members, to be appointed by the Speaker;" which was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Swan introduced

- A bill to be entitled "An act to provide an export duty on cotton and tobacco exported from the Confederate States to the ports or in the ships of any foreign country which has not recognized the independence of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be requested to inquire and report what steps have been taken by the War Department for awarding medals to the soldiers who have distinguished themselves in battle. That they further be instructed to report what legislation is proper (in case difficulties exist in the preparation of medals) to provide for certificates of title to medals, upon which the same can be claimed when prepared;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Gardenhire presented the memorial of D. K. Young, of Clinton, Tenn., in relation to the burning of the academy at that place; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the bills and resolutions on the Calendar at the end of the last session of this Congress, excepting the numbers hereinafter mentioned, stand in the same condition in which they then were, and be proceeded on as if the same had been introduced at the present session; and as if all the proceedings then had therein had been had at the present session; and that they stand on the Calendar in the order they now occupy. That the numbers excepted be as follows: Nos. 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 18, 20, 23, 31, 35, 37, 38, 39, and 47;

which was read and, on motion of Mr. Curry, was laid upon the table.

Mr. Jones presented a memorial from J. G. W. Mills, praying an increase of compensation as route agent; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Currin, leave of absence was granted Messrs. Heiskell and Swan to visit Tennessee, on business.

On motion of Mr. McLean, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Lander, on account of illness.

Mr. Vest, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of officers acting under temporary appointment from the commander of any department, corps, division, or brigade;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Vest also, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lyons, by consent, presented a memorial from E. T. Sturdivant, of Alabama, praying compensation for slave impressed into the service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also, by consent, presented a memorial from C. P. Whitt, praying compensation for tools lost in public service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also presented the claim of S. F. Smith for tools lost in public service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also presented a design for a Confederate seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Boteler introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the appointment of military storekeepers in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of promptly providing by law for the reorganization of the Army by authorizing the consolidation of such companies, battalions, and regiments whose efficiency has been impaired by reason of their numerical reduction, having a due regard, in said reorganization, to the preservation of those regiments and brigades which have most distinguished themselves in battle, and to the retention in service of the more meritorious officers, honorably retiring such as may be spared from duty and exempting them from conscription, and also having proper respect for the reasonable wishes of the men, by continuing, as far as practicable, the association of those who heretofore have served together, or who may be from the same localities; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Russell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to restrict the issue of Treasury notes and to substitute certificates of loan to a certain amount;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Russell, all bills, etc., of the last session in relation to the sequestration of property were taken up and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Boteler presented a letter from Brigadier-General Paxton, concerning the consolidation of reduced companies, regiments, etc.; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Collier presented a design for a Confederate seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Holcombe offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Printing be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending a joint resolution entitled "Resolution for the preservation of public documents," approved April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Holcombe, the bills, etc., of the last session relating to the establishment of a court of claims were taken up and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. De Jarnette presented a memorial from the railroad companies of Virginia, praying relief from taxation on military freight and travel; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

Mr. Preston presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Virginia, praying an increase of the pay of a mail contractor; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads inquire into the expediency of reducing the expenses of the Post-Office Department within its means, by abolishing the Department; and if it is inexpedient to abolish the Department, to inquire into the expediency of allowing express companies to carry mailable matter with postage prepaid.

A division of the resolution having been called for, it was divided as follows, to wit:

Part first. That the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads inquire into the expediency of reducing the expenses of the Post-Office Department within its means, by abolishing the Department.

Part second. And if it is inexpedient to abolish the Department, to inquire into the expediency of allowing express companies to carry mailable matter with postage prepaid.

And the question being on agreeing to the first part,

The same was lost.

And, on motion, the second part of the resolution was laid upon the table.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That all bills on the subject of making Treasury notes a legal tender, which were on the Calendar at the end of the last session, be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Lyons presented the petition of Messrs. Williams & Carrington, praying compensation for tobacco destroyed by the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also presented a design for a Confederate seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether private property of citizens not in the Army has been seized and confiscated by his order [or not]; and if it has been, for what offense and under what law such seizure and confiscation have been ordered;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved that all the bills, resolutions, etc., of the last session in relation to martial law be taken up and made the special order of business for Wednesday next.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Russell, the same were taken up and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House a list of all civilians now in custody under authority of the War Department, giving, as to each, his name, residence, and occupation, with the date of his arrest, the offense charged against him, and the place of his imprisonment;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire into the expediency—

First. Of discontinuing the allowance of commutation for quarters and fuel to officers at posts or hospitals, or of making some equivalent allowance to officers in the field.

Second. Of limiting the number of horses to be kept by officers at posts or hospitals to such as may be allowed for each officer for the duties of his position by special order of the commander of the department.

Third. Of limiting the right of purchasing supplies from the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments to officers serving in the field and for their personal use while so serving.

Fourth. Of allowing to chaplains in the field one ration and forage for one horse;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Burnett, by consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That hereafter the regular business of the morning hour shall be a call of the committees;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House.

On motion of Mr. Hilton, the rules were suspended to allow the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House to make a report.

Mr. Lewis, from the committee, reported the following resolutions, with the recommendation that they pass, viz:

Resolved, That the following shall be among the established rules of the House:
First. Debate on bills, resolutions, and all matters for reference shall, at the time of introduction, be limited to five minutes to each member.

Second. There shall be an actual division of the House upon all motions to suspend the rules.

Third. No member shall call the question or move the previous question upon the conclusion of his remarks.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the first resolution of the committee by striking out the words "to each member" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz: "two speeches of five minutes each, one in favor and one against the proposition."

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the first resolution as follows, viz: Strike out all of the original and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That hereafter, in the presentation of bills, resolutions, or memorials for reference to any committee, no debate shall be allowed upon them until the report of the committee is before the House, without unanimous consent: *Provided, however*, That the member introducing a resolution or bill shall be allowed five minutes for explanation of the character of the same;

which was agreed to, and the first resolution as amended was agreed to.

The second resolution was agreed to.

The third resolution was also agreed to.

Mr. Foote moved that the vote by which the first resolution was agreed to be reconsidered; which was agreed to.

Mr. Lewis, from the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House, to which was referred a resolution of the Senate to amend the joint rules, which was to rescind joint rule No. 16, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the House do not concur in the joint resolution.

And the question being that the House nonconcur,

The same was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Boyce,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion of Mr. Curry,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House a communication; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, February 4, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, forwarding the report of the Chief of Ordnance, in partial response to your resolution of the 10th of September, 1862.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were laid upon the table.

Mr. Boyce offered joint resolutions in reference to a just settlement

of the issues growing out of the war; which were read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

And on motion of Mr. Ciapp,

The House resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-FIRST DAY—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which [was] on agreeing to the first rule as amended, reported from the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House.

The following amendment was prepared and submitted by the Speaker, viz:

Strike out all of the original and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

"Upon the introduction of memorials, resolutions, and bills, no debate, except by unanimous consent, shall be allowed on the question of reference, or on the question of adopting resolutions asking information from the Executive Department, or instructing committees to inquire and report: *Provided, however,* That the member introducing a memorial, resolution, or bill shall always be allowed five minutes to explain the character of the same;"

which was agreed to, and the rule as amended was adopted.

Mr. Chambliss, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the pay of the clerks at the naval station at Charlotte, North Carolina;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Chambliss also offered the following resolution, viz:

Whereas many of the best, most valuable, and patriotic citizens of the Confederate States have been driven from their homes by the public enemy, have withstood the seductions and remained firm and loyal in their attachments to the Southern cause, and have sacrificed their property in consequence of their devotion to their country; and

Whereas such loyal citizens are entitled to the respect, the sympathy, and the aid of the Government: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law relieving from taxation during the war all loyal citizens who have been forced to flee from their homes by reason of the presence of the Northern Army;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Davidson, by consent, offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House what sum or sums of money have been vested or funded for the Cherokee Indians east of the Mississippi out of "the removal and subsistence fund" under the treaty of New Echota of eighteen hundred and thirty-five and eighteen hundred and thirty-six by the United States. When the same was so funded. When the interest was last paid. What legislation has heretofore been enacted by the United States, and what legislation is now necessary to carry into effect the late treaty stipulations with said tribe;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the transfer of troops, and to repeal an act entitled 'An act in relation to the transfer of troops,' approved September twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-two,"

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That an act entitled "An act in relation to the transfer of troops," approved September twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, be, and the same is hereby, repealed, and that it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to transfer any private or noncommissioned officer who may be in a regiment from a State of this Confederacy other than his own, to a regiment from his own State, whenever such private or noncommissioned officer may apply for such transfer, and it shall not be necessary to obtain such transfer to secure the consent of the regimental, division, or corps commanders to whose commands such private or noncommissioned officer may belong, or of any officer to whose command such private or noncommissioned officer may apply to be transferred: *Provided*, That this act shall not apply to any one who has enlisted as a substitute,

Mr. Chambers, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That an act entitled "An act in relation to the transfer of troops," approved September twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, be, and the same is hereby, repealed, and that it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War to transfer any private or noncommissioned officer who may be in a regiment from a State of this Confederacy other than his own, to a regiment from his own State, whenever such private or noncommissioned officer may apply for such transfer, and it shall not be necessary in order to obtain such transfer to secure the consent of the company, regimental, brigade, division, or corps commander to whose command such private or noncommissioned officer may belong, or to which he may apply to be transferred, but it shall be sufficient to require the applicant to report to the commanding officer of the regiment to which he applies to be transferred, by whom he shall be placed in the company of his choice in that regiment, unless such company shall be already full to its maximum, in which case the said commanding officer may place him in any other company of that regiment: *Provided*, That this act shall not apply to any one who has enlisted as a substitute.

Mr. Read moved to amend the amendment by adding thereto the following:

SEC. 2. That whenever the Secretary of War shall grant a transfer agreeably to the above provisions to any soldier in the service, he shall furnish transportation also;

which was agreed to.

Mr. Ralls moved further to amend the amendment by adding thereto the following, viz:

Provided, The regiment to which the applicant wishes to be transferred belongs to the same division to which the applicant belongs.

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Dupré moved that the bill and amendments be printed and the further consideration of the same be postponed.

Mr. Atkins demanded the question: which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved further to amend the amendment by adding thereto the following, viz:

The privilege of this act shall only be extended to persons who enlisted in regiments of other States before the secession of their own States.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question: which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

The amendment of the committee as amended was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Clark called for the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows:

Yeas	49
Nays	33

 [50]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Ayer, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McLean, Pugh, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Ralls moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 6. An act making appropriations for the support of the Government for the period from February 1 to June 30, 1863, inclusive, and to supply deficiencies arising prior thereto.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred

A bill to fund a portion of the currency of the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment, be printed, and made the special order of business for Tuesday next, and from day to day until concluded; which was agreed to.

Mr. Curry called for the special order of the day.

Pending which,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 35. An act to authorize the issue of bonds for funding Treasury notes; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the Senate bill entitled "An act to authorize the issue of bonds for funding Treasury notes" was taken up, read the first and second times, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Davis,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Foote, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to whom was referred joint resolutions on the pending war, and matters appertaining thereto, reported the same back, with a recommendation that they pass with an amendment.

And the question being upon the amendment of the committee, which was upon striking out the whole of the original resolutions; which are as follows, to wit:

Joint resolutions on the pending war, and matters appertaining thereto.

The people of the Confederate States of America having, in the progress of the pending war, most clearly demonstrated their ability to maintain by arms the claim to separate independence which they have heretofore asserted before the world, and being inflexibly resolved never to relinquish the struggle in which they are engaged until the great object for which they have been contending shall have been finally accomplished; in view of the fact that a great political reaction, in opposition to the bloody and unnatural war now in course of prosecution, has displayed itself in several of the most populous and influential States of what was once honorably known as "the United States of America;" and, in view of the additional fact that even among the avowed opponents of despotism, and the recognized friends of peace in the North, a grave and deplorable misapprehension has of late arisen in regard to the true condition of public sentiment in the South, touching the question of reconstructing that political union once existing under the protection of what is known as the Federal Constitution: Now, in order that no further misunderstanding of the kind referred to may hereafter prevail, and in order that the *unchangeable* determination of our Government and people, in reference to the terms upon which *alone* they would be willing to bring this sanguinary struggle to a close, may be made known;

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do resolve, as follows:

1. There is no plan of reconstructing what was formerly known as the Federal Union to which the people of the Confederate States will ever consent. Wrongs too grievous and multiplied have been committed upon us and upon our most cherished rights, by a *united* North, since this unprovoked and most wicked war commenced; a majority of the people of the Northern States have too evidently shown themselves to be utterly incapable of self-government and unmindful of all the fundamental principles upon which alone republican institutions can be maintained; they have too long submitted patiently to the iron rule of the basest and most degrading despotism that the world has yet known; for too long a period of time have they openly and unblushingly sympathized with the lawless and ferocious miscreants who have been sent into the bosom of the unoffending South to spill the precious blood of our most valued citizens, to pollute and to desecrate all that we hold in especial respect and veneration, to rob us of our property, to expel us from our homes, and wantonly to devastate our country, to allow even of the possibility of our ever again consenting to hold the least political connection with those who have so cruelly outraged our sensibilities and so profoundly dishonored themselves, and, in association with whom, we feel that we could not expect that freedom which we love, that self-respect which we are determined ever to cultivate, and the esteem and sympathy of civilized and Christian nations.

2. Whilst the Confederate States of America are not at all responsible for the existing war, and have been at all times ready to participate in such arrangements as would be best suited to bring it to a close in a manner consistent with their own safety and honor, they could not yield their consent to an *armistice* of a single day or hour so long as the incendiary proclamation of the atrocious monster now bearing rule in Washington City shall remain unrevoked, nor could the Government of said Confederate States agree to negotiate at all in regard to a suspension of hostilities except upon the basis of a *formal and unconditional recognition of their independence*.

3. Whenever the friends of peace in the North shall grow strong enough to constrain Abraham Lincoln and his flagitious Cabinet to withdraw said proclamation and propose an armistice upon the basis aforesaid, the Government of the Confederate States will be ready to accede to said proposition of armistice with a view to the settlement of all existing difficulties.

4. Should peace be, at any time, brought about, the Confederate States of America would freely consent to the formation of a just and mutually advantageous commercial treaty with all the States now constituting the United States, *except New England*, with whose people and in whose ignoble love of gold and brutifying fanaticism this disgraceful war has mainly originated; in consideration of which facts the people of the Confederate States of America are firmly and deliberately resolved to have no intercourse whatever hereafter, either direct or indirect, political, commercial, or social, under any circumstances which could be possibly imagined to exist, with said States of New England or the people therein resident.

5. The Government of the Confederate States, in consideration of the change in public sentiment which has occurred in several of the Northern States, wherein polit-

ical elections have been recently held, sympathizing most kindly with those by whose mainly exertions that change has been brought about, would be willing to conclude a just and honorable peace with any one or more of said States who (renouncing all political connection with New England) may be found willing to stipulate for the desisting at once from the further prosecution of the war against the South; and in such case the Government of the Confederate States would be willing to enter into a *league, offensive and defensive*, with the States thus desisting, of a permanent and enduring character.

6. The Government of the Confederate States is now willing, as it has heretofore repeatedly avowed itself to be, whenever the States bordering upon the Mississippi River, or any of them, shall have declared their inclination to withdraw from the further prosecution of the war upon the South (which, could it be successful, would only have the effect of destroying their own best market), to guarantee to them, in the most effectual and satisfactory manner, the peaceful and uninterrupted navigation of the said Mississippi River and its tributaries and to open to them at once the markets of the South, greatly enhanced in value to them as they would be by the permanent exclusion of all articles of New England growth or manufacture.

7. The course of *practical neutrality* in regard to the pending war heretofore pursued by the States and Territories west of the Rocky Mountains has afforded the highest gratification to the people of the Confederate States of America; and it is hoped that the day is not far distant when said States and Territories, consulting their own obvious safety and future welfare, will withdraw from all political connection with a Government which has heretofore been a source of continual oppression to them; and when said States and Territories, asserting their separate independence, shall appropriate to themselves the manifold advantages sure to result from such a movement, among which may be reckoned, first, relief from grievous and exhausting tariff regulations now being rigidly enforced; second, relief from all the discredit resulting inevitably from the prosecution of the present unjust and unauthorized war; third, relief from the pressure of a *despotism* the most heartless and atrocious ever yet established; fourth, relief from the crushing weight of taxation unavoidably growing out of the war; fifth, the exclusive use and enjoyment of all the rich mineral lands stretching along the slope of the Pacific; sixth, free trade with all the nations of the earth, and a future maritime growth and power that has no parallel; and, lastly, a monopoly of the trade of the Pacific Ocean.

8. *Resolved*, That the President be respectfully requested, if he shall approve these resolutions, to cause them to be promulgated and transmitted to the States of the North by such means as he shall deem most judicious; and that he accompany them, if he shall think it advisable, with such an address or proclamation, expository of the matters embodied therein, as he shall judge most suitable and proper,

and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved, That the Government of the Confederate States have never designed to deny to the Northwestern States the navigation of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, and is prepared to open negotiations with one or more of them whenever they shall have dissolved their present political connection with the United States,

Mr. Boyce moved to amend the amendment of the committee by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Confederate States, That it is the sense of Congress that if peace can be obtained on the basis of an acknowledgment of our independence, and the just settlement of the issues growing out of the war, by the concession to the Northern States, excepting the New England States, of the free navigation of the Mississippi, and a reciprocity treaty of free trade, such concession should be made.

That a secret agent should be sent to Canada to promote the above policy.

That the sum of dollars be placed at the disposal of the President, to be used as a secret service fund for the purpose contemplated in these resolutions.

Mr. Conrad moved to postpone the further consideration of the resolutions and amendments and to make them the special order for Tuesday next.

Mr. Baldwin moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of the resolutions and amendments.

Pending which,

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

Secret H. R. 5. An act granting transportation to troops who volunteered for the war;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a House bill to be entitled "An act granting transportation to troops who volunteered for the war;" which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

And the rule requiring the reference of the bill and amendments to a committee having been suspended on motion of Mr. Davis,

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendments of the Senate, which were to strike out all of the original bill; which is as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the provisions of the act of the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, known as "Act to further provide for the public defense," granting furloughs home and back to all those retained in the service beyond the term of their enlistment, be extended to those who volunteered for the war,

and to insert in lieu thereof

That noncommissioned officers and privates who have been mustered into service for the war, and to whom furloughs may be granted for not more than sixty days, shall be entitled to transportation home and back: *Provided,* That this allowance shall only be made once during the term of enlistment of such noncommissioned officers and privates.

The same was agreed to.

And the title of the bill being under consideration,

The Senate amendment, striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for transportation of persons who have been mustered into the service for the war,"

was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the House concurred in the amendments of the Senate.

Mr. Gartrell moved to lay the motion of Mr. Jones on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Davis moved to suspend the forty-second rule.

The motion was agreed to;

When,

Mr. Gray rose to a point of order, viz: That a motion to lay on the table a motion to reconsider a vote on the passage of a bill or resolution being decided in the affirmative did not carry the bill or resolution with it.

Mr. Baldwin being in the Chair, decided that it did.

From which decision Mr. Gray appealed.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The same was decided in the affirmative.

And on motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Crumly.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 17. An act relating to appeals from the Commissioner of Patents; and

S. 24. An act to authorize the Commissioner of Patents to purchase books for the library of the Patent Office;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Miles, by consent, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred messages of the President in relation to the findings of courts-martial for desertion, etc., and to the examination and appointment of ordnance officers, etc., reported the same back, with the recommendation that they be printed and lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent frauds in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining, under false pretenses, transportation for private property;" which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation.

Mr. Gartrell presented the memorial and claim of Brown, Fleming & Co., of Atlanta, Ga., for sugar destroyed by the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Holcombe moved that the rules be suspended and the House proceed to the consideration of

A bill to authorize and regulate impressments of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Foote,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

To the House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

I have this day received the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the President be requested to inform this House whether private property of citizens not in the Army has been seized and confiscated by his order or not; and if it has been, for what offense and under what law such seizure and confiscation have been ordered;"

And reply that no private property of citizens, either in or not in the Army, has been seized and confiscated by my order.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

Richmond, February 7, 1863.

which was read, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

The Chair also laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., February 7, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of the amount required for the remuneration of additional clerks in the War Department.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount and for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "A bill to be entitled 'An act relating to appeals from the Commissioner of Patents;'" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Patents.

Also, a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to authorize the Commissioner of Patents to purchase books for the library of the Patent Office;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Patents.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee, by the unanimous consent of the House, offered the following preamble and resolutions, viz:

Whereas the Constitution of the Confederate States provides that "Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Confederacy according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those held [bound] to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all slaves. *The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the Confederate States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct.*"—*Constitution, Art. I, sec. 2, par. 3.*

And whereas the Constitution also provides that "*No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken.*"—*Constitution, Art. I, sec. 9, par. 5:* Therefore,

Resolved, That Congress has no power to lay a *direct tax* until the census shall have been first taken as directed by the Constitution.

Resolved, That until the census shall have been taken, Congress has ample powers of taxing property, privileges, licenses, corporations, vocations, incomes, and all other subjects of taxation under that provision of the Constitution which declares that "*Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises for revenue necessary to pay the debts, provide for the common defense, and carry on the Government of the Confederate States.*"—*Constitution, Art. I, sec. 8, par. 1;*

which were read, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

Mr. Chambers, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the issue of bonds to subscribers to the produce loans in certain cases;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims.

On motion of Mr. Read,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of the last secret session; which was the consideration of the motion of Mr. Baldwin to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of joint resolutions on the pending war, and matters appertaining thereto, and sundry amendments to the same.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

A bill to provide for transportation of persons who have been mustered into the service for the war.

And the Speaker signed the name.

A message was received from the President, by the hands of his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, notifying the House that the President had to-day approved and signed

An act to provide for transportation of persons who have been mustered into the service for the war.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 7, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration [in secret session] a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting an estimate of the amount required to carry into effect the act entitled "An act to authorize a foreign loan."

I recommend an appropriation of the amount and for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

To the House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

In reply to your resolution of the 28th ultimo, I herewith transmit a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, in which will be found a partial answer to the inquiries submitted. It contains full information in relation to the number of vessels, their cost and mode of payment, with a reference to laws conferring authority for what has been done.

I have not deemed it proper to communicate the names of officers employed abroad, and still less the names of contractors in foreign countries, for the obvious reason that to do so would endanger the execution of the works undertaken, and for the paramount consideration that to reveal the names of parties who have contracted abroad with us, would subject them to the penalties imposed by the laws of their own country, and to violate the faith, at least impliedly, given to them when they entered into contracts with the officers of our Government.

From such considerations, while the reports of the Secretary of the Navy made to this and previous sessions of Congress endeavored to give the fullest information in relation to the operations of the Department, executed or to be executed within the limits of our country, those in foreign countries were stated with the reservation of whatever might be injurious to the public interest, or to persons who encountered hazards to render us service.

The laws and resolutions to which reference is made as giving authority for the construction of vessels abroad of a necessity contemplated their execution in places where the laws would forbid any subject or citizen being a party to the transaction, and, therefore, implied so much of secrecy as would be inconsistent with the exhibition of contracts and the exposure of the names of contractors, at least until time should have removed them from the danger of prosecution or damages.

Although these considerations do not apply so strongly to a communication made in secret session, the objections still remain that the danger of the parties is increased by the multiplication of authentic papers, any one of which would furnish conclusive proof against them, a hazard which it is fair to presume they would be unwilling to incur, and which if known to them might have prevented their consent to the contract.

I trust that the House will find in the above-stated reasons a justification for withholding fuller information than is contained in this message and the accompanying letter of the Secretary of the Navy.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Read,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Burrows.

Leave of absence was, on motion of Mr. Davis, granted him, on account of illness in his family.

On motion, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Ayer, on account of illness.

Mr. Boteler, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act authorizing the purchase of certain real estate for the use of the Ordnance Department;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to punish deserters in certain cases;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Dargan also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the several acts relating to chaplains in the Army;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Dargan presented the memorial of L. Merchant & Co., of Alabama, praying compensation for rations, etc., furnished the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Clopton offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Medical Department be directed to inquire into the expediency of establishing one or more hospitals for the sick or wounded soldiers from such States, respectively, who may be unfit for service for thirty days; which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Clopton also presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Alabama in relation to the exemption act; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to have five thousand additional copies of the President's message and a similar amount of the reports of each of the Executive Departments printed for the use of this House.

Mr. Foster moved that the rule requiring the resolution to be referred to the Committee on Printing be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the resolution was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to report a bill providing for the conscribing and placing in the public service in the field every white male citizen, resident, or sojourner within the Confederate States, without regard to age, physical ability, trade, profession, or pursuit, whenever it may be satisfactorily ascertained that such citizen, resident, or sojourner has refused to receive Confederate money in payment for any article sold or offered for sale by him; and any such citizen, resident, or sojourner in the Confederate States shall also be made and held liable to be con-

scribed and placed in the public service in the field for selling or attempting to sell any article whatever at an advance of more than _____ per cent upon the prices charged two years ago for articles of the same kind and quality, whether the same be used for dress or consumption, or for any purpose whatever;

which was read.

And the question being upon the passage of the same,

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows:	Yeas	22
	Nays	55

Yeas: Chambers, Chrisman, Clopton, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Lyon, McRae, Mences, Perkins, Pugh, Staples, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Elliott, Farrow, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gray, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the resolution was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the resolution was lost.

Mr. Smith of Alabama presented a memorial from T. S. Harwell and Eugene McCaa, of Alabama, praying that flogging in the Army be abolished: which was read, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

Mr. Smith of Alabama introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit the punishment of soldiers by whipping:"

which was read the first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the rule requiring the reference of the bill to a committee was suspended.

The bill having been taken up and read as follows:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That from and after the passage of this act it shall not be lawful for any court-martial to cause any soldiers in the service of the Confederate States to be punished by whipping or the infliction of stripes upon his person, and that all laws and customs contravening the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed,

Mr. Miles moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That the infliction of corporeal punishment by flogging in the armies of the Confederate States is hereby abolished.

Mr. Ralls demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Singleton demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

A bill to be entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Government for the period from February first to June thirtieth,

[eighteen hundred and sixty-three,] inclusive, and to supply deficiencies arising prior thereto."

And the same was signed by the Speaker.

The Chair announced as the special committee to inquire into the expediency of providing homesteads for officers and soldiers disabled in the service:

Messrs. Conrad of Louisiana, Chilton of Alabama, Atkins of Tennessee, Garland of Arkansas, Johnston of Virginia, Hartridge of Georgia, Hilton of Florida, Gray of Texas, Clapp of Mississippi, Ashe of North Carolina, McQueen of South Carolina, Machen of Kentucky, and Bell of Missouri.

Mr. Miles called for the special order of business.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Curry demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 26
Nays 54

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Burnett, Clapp, Conrow, Davis, De Jarnette, Foote, Gardenhire, Garnett, Hodge, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Read, Strickland, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Lander, Lyon, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the House refused to resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Holcombe moved that the special order be postponed.

The motion was lost, and

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was the bill declaring what persons shall be exempt from military service.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Dargan to recommit the bill and amendments to the Committee on Military Affairs,

Mr. Dargan withdrew said motion.

Mr. Collier moved to amend by striking out all of the original after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That all persons who shall be held unfit for military service in the field by reason of bodily or mental incapacity or imbecility, under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War; the Vice-President of the Confederate States; the officers, judicial and executive, of the Confederate and State governments, including postmasters appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and such clerks in their offices as are allowed by the Postmaster-General and now employed, and excluding all other postmasters, their assistants and clerks; and except such State officers as the several States may have declared, or may hereafter declare, liable to militia duty; the members of both Houses of the Congress of the Confederate States and of the legislatures of the several States and their respective officers; all clerks now in the offices of the Confederate and State governments authorized by law, receiving salaries or fees; all volunteer troops heretofore raised by any State since the passage of the act entitled "An act further to provide for the public defense," approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while such troops shall be in active service under State authority: *Provided*, That this exemption shall not apply to any person who was liable to be called into service by virtue of said act of April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; all pilots and persons engaged in the merchant marine service;

the president, superintendents, conductors, treasurer, chief clerk, engineers, managers, station agents, section masters, two expert track hands to each section of eight miles, and mechanics in the active service and employment of railroad companies, not to embrace laborers, porters, and messengers; the president, general superintendent, and operators of telegraph companies, the local superintendent and operators of said companies not to exceed four in number at any locality but that at the seat of government of the Confederate States; the president, superintendents, captains, engineers, chief clerk, and mechanics in the active service and employment of all companies engaged in river and canal navigation, and all captains of boats and engineers therein employed; one editor of each newspaper now being published, and such employees as the editor or proprietor may certify on oath to be indispensable for conducting the publication; the Public Printer and those employed to perform the public printing for the Confederate and State governments; every minister of religion authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect and in the regular discharge of ministerial duties, and all persons who have been and now are members of the Society of Friends and the Association of Dunkards, Nazariners, and Mennonists in regular membership in their respective denominations: *Provided*, That members of the Society of Friends, Nazariners, Mennonists, and Dunkards shall furnish substitutes or pay a tax of five hundred dollars each into the public treasury; all physicians who now are and have been for the last five years in actual practice of their profession; all superintendents of public hospitals, lunatic asylums, and the regular physicians, nurses, and attendants therein, and the teachers employed in the institutions for the deaf, dumb, and blind; in each apothecary store now established and doing business, one apothecary in good standing who is a practical apothecary; all superintendents, managers, mechanics, and miners employed in the production and manufacture of salt to the extent of twenty bushels per day, and of lead and iron, and all persons engaged in burning coke, smelting, and manufacture of iron, regular miners in coal mines, and all colliers engaged in making charcoal for making bar and pig iron, not to embrace laborers, messengers, wagoners, and servants, unless employed at works conducted under the authority and by the officers or agents of a State, or in works employed in the production of iron for the Confederate States; also a regiment raised under and by authority of the State of Texas for frontier defense, now in the service of said State, while in such service: *Provided further*, That the exemptions herein above enumerated and granted hereby shall only continue whilst the persons exempted are actually engaged in their respective pursuits or occupations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of War shall, upon such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by him, and with the approval of the President, exempt from all military service, or detail for specified purposes, such person or persons, as, with the approval of the President, he may deem essential for the good of the service or the general interests of the country: *And provided further*, That the enrollment of persons between forty and forty-five years of age shall be suspended until the President shall call such persons into the military service.

SEC. 2. All acts or parts of acts heretofore passed in conflict with the provisions herein contained are hereby repealed.

Mr. Dargan moved that the bill and amendment be recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Royston demanded the question: which was ordered.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Burrows.

Mr. Hodge moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution: which was agreed to, and

Mr. Hodge offered the following resolution, viz:

Whereas information has reached this Congress of the passage by the Congress at Washington, District of Columbia, of a bill for the enlistment of negroes as soldiers in the armies of the United States, which armies are to be engaged in prosecuting the further invasion of the Confederate States of America; and

Whereas the constitutions, both of the Confederate States and the United States, recognize Africans and their descendants as property; and

Whereas we can not consent to any change in their political status and condition: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill providing the proper forms for the disposition of all negroes or mulattoes who may be captured from the enemy in such manner that those of them who are fugitives from their masters may be restored to their rightful owners, and those for whom no masters can be found shall be sold into perpetual bondage for the purpose of raising a fund to reimburse citizens of this Confederacy who have lost their slave property by reason of the interference therewith of the enemy;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Curry offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's Department inquire into the expediency of such additional legislation as will authorize post quartermasters to pay to the persons authorized by law to receive the amount due to deceased soldiers, on the presentation of the proper papers, made out and certified by the commander of the company to which the deceased soldier belonged;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Curry also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to pay for horses lost but not killed in battle;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chilton presented a correspondence between the governor of Alabama and the Secretary of War in relation to exemptions; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Chilton also presented the memorial of M. W. Garrison, praying compensation for provisions furnished the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Chilton also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to allow commutation to soldiers who have been mustered into the Confederate States service for a less period than twelve months;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Chilton also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to grant certain powers to commissioners of the Confederate courts;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Ralls offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the act entitled "An act concerning the pay and allowances due to deceased soldiers," approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, as to entitle brothers and sisters to receive what is due deceased soldiers, in case there is no other person entitled to receive such dues;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Clopton offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be reported to this House any information which the Secretary of the Navy may have in his office in regard to the quality and abundance of iron and coal to be obtained at the place in Alabama at which it is contemplated to establish a cannon foundry, and the facilities now afforded for obtaining the same, the probable cost of the works, the time which will be required to put it in operation, and the probability of obtaining mechanics and operatives for the same, and for mining coal and iron at this time;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Lyon offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads inquire into the expediency of allowing further time to persons holding claims against the Post-Office Department for services rendered in carrying the public mails since the secession of the Southern States, and before contracts were made for transporting the mails, to present the same for settlement;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Ralls offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire if any further legislation is necessary to secure the sending of returns to the Adjutant-General's Office, with a view of expediting the payment of the claims of deceased soldiers;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Garland offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That bill numbered twenty-eight, on the previous Calendar, entitled "A bill to amend an act to establish judicial courts of the Confederate States," be withdrawn from such Calendar and placed upon the Calendar of this session;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garland also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for punishing persons committing certain acts against the Government of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Garland also presented a letter from William M. Randolph, of Little Rock, Ark., relating to secret societies forming in that State; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

Mr. Royston introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act explanatory of an act entitled "An act to authorize the President to accept and place in the service certain regiments and battalions heretofore raised," approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Royston moved that the rule requiring the reference of the bill to a committee be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act relating to organization of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton also presented the memorial of W. O. Girardeau, praying compensation for services as enrolling officer; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Hilton also introduced

A joint resolution explanatory of the act approved October 13, 1862, to increase the pay of certain officers and employees of the civil and legislative departments of Government; which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Hilton moved a suspension of the rule requiring a reference of the joint resolution to a committee.

The motion was lost, and the resolution was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Hilton presented the letter of E. M. Garnett on the same subject; which was referred to the same committee, without being read.

Mr. Hanly offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be, and he is hereby, respectfully requested to communicate to this House the number of quartermasters on duty in the city of Richmond at this time, their rank, and the duties they are severally engaged in;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Hilton offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That from and after Monday next, the hour of the daily meetings of this House shall be eleven o'clock antemeridian.

Mr. Garland moved that the resolution be laid upon the table.

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 53
Nays ----- 30

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Conrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the resolution was laid upon the table.

On motion, leave of absence was granted Mr. Wright of Texas, on account of illness.

Mr. Smith of Virginia presented the memorial of G. Tochman in relation to his rank; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Villeré moved that he be excused from further service upon the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order; which was

A bill to declare what persons shall be exempt from military service.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Dargan to recommit the bill and amendments to the Committee on Military Affairs,

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 40
Nays ----- 45

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Clark, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lewis, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Barksdale, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dupré, Elliott, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Foote moved the previous question; which was ordered, and the first amendment of the committee, which is as follows, to wit:

Insert after the word "years" the words "not physically or mentally disqualified for service in the field,"

was agreed to.

The second amendment; which is as follows:

Insert after the word "States," in the sixth line, the words "and except those ministers of religion who are authorized to preach according to the rules of their sects and are in the regular discharge of ministerial duties,"

was agreed to.

The third amendment; which is as follows:

Add after the second amendment the words "and except such State troops as are now exempted by law from military service, so long as they remain in such State service,"

was agreed to.

The fourth amendment; which is as follows:

Strike out the words "and of the several States composing the Confederacy," and insert after the word "States," in the sixth line, the words "and such of the officers of the several States composing the Confederacy as are not by the laws of such State subject to military service in time of war,"

was agreed to.

The fifth amendment; which is as follows:

Provided, That this exemption shall not apply to such officers of any State as may now, or hereafter, by a law of such State, be made liable to military service in the armies of the Confederate States,

was agreed to.

The question being then on agreeing to the sixth amendment; which is as follows, viz:

Add at the end of the bill:

"And provided further, That no person shall be enrolled who has furnished a substitute in the Army, in accordance with orders heretofore issued by the Secretary of War, unless the substitute has deserted, or shall desert, or has become or shall become liable to military service,"

Mr. Baldwin demanded a division of the question.

The Chair decided that the question was not divisible.

From which decision Mr. Baldwin appealed.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The same was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. De Jarnette demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 48
Nays 26

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Vest, Villeré, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, De Jarnette, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Lyons, McDowell, McRae, Preston, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Trippe.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The question then being on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Collier,

Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

{ Yeas	39
{ Nays	38

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Trippe.

Nays: Barksdale, Batson, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Graham, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the same,

Mr. Johnston demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

{ Yeas	14
{ Nays	63 [64]

Yeas: Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Dupré, Ewing, Garnett, Hartridge, Johnston, Machen, Marshall, Ralls, Royston, and Staples.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the bill was lost.

Mr. Holcombe called for the special order.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the same was postponed.

Mr. Kenner, by consent, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "A bill to author-

ize the appointment of assistants to the Register in signing bonds and certificates," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The bill was taken up, read a third time, and passed.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize and regulate the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes."

Pending the consideration of which,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Chair announced as the special committee to examine into frauds in transportation on railroads:

Messrs. Atkins of Tennessee, Bridgers of North Carolina, Munnerlyn of Georgia, Simpson of South Carolina, and Collier of Virginia.

The Chair appointed Mr. Marshall of Louisiana on the Committee on Claims, in lieu of Mr. Villeré, excused.

Mr. Miles moved that the House reconsider the vote by which a bill to be entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service" was lost.

On motion of Mr. Singleton, leave of absence was granted Mr. Clapp, on account of important business at home.

On motion,

Mr. Marshall was excused from service on the Committee on Claims; and

The Chair appointed Mr. Simpson of South Carolina, in lieu of Mr. Marshall.

Mr. Foster moved that the House reconsider the vote by which a bill of the Senate to authorize the appointment of assistants to the Register, etc., was passed.

Mr. Hartridge presented the memorial of John Boston, of Georgia, praying compensation for the loss of ship *Sebasticook*; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Gartrell presented the memorial of John C. Bowden, praying the establishment of a mail route from Marietta to Salt Springs, Ga.; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. Gartrell also presented the memorial of Gen. Duff Green, tendering to Congress an argument and statistics on the subject of finance; which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Gartrell also presented the argument, etc., tendered by Gen. Duff Green.

Mr. Jones moved that the House refuse to receive the argument, etc., of Gen. Duff Green.

Mr. Chrisman demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 33
Nays ----- 45 [44]

Yeas: Batson, Boyce, Burnett, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, Miles, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Goode, Harris, Hartridge, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, and Mr. Speaker.

So the House refused to reject it.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell, the same was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Gartrell moved to print the same, and moved further to refer the motion to print to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Jones moved that the motion to print be laid upon the table, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows: { Yeas ----- 61
Nays ----- 17

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Eli M. Bruce, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Harris, Lewis, McQueen, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Russell, and Vest.

So the motion to print was laid on the table.

A message was received from the President, informing the House that on yesterday he approved and signed an act entitled

H. R. 6. An act making appropriations for the support of the Government for the period from February 1 to June 30, 1863, inclusive, and to supply deficiencies arising prior thereto.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., February 11, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, inclosing copies of the findings of a general court-martial in the cases of persons charged with desertion and absence without leave, being a response to your resolution of the 27th ultimo.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Lyons,
The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;
When, on motion,
The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,
On motion of Mr. Holt, leave of absence was granted the Clerk of the House, Mr. Dixon, on account of illness.
Mr. Miles moved that the Assistant Clerk of the House be authorized to employ any necessary additional assistance during the illness of the Clerk; which was agreed to.
A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 11) to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House Senate bill (11) to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the last secret session; which was the motion of Mr. Baldwin to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of joint resolutions on the pending war, and matters appertaining thereto, and sundry amendments to the same.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the rule requiring the matter under consideration to be considered in Committee of the Whole was suspended.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 11, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, in reference to the case of Col. Richard Thomas, in response to your resolution of the 24th ultimo.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the message and accompanying documents.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Atkins,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Burrows.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to appropriations for ministers or agents

Mr. H. W. Bruce also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide a uniform currency;" which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Conrad offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the detail of officers of the line to serve in the staff;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Conrad also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House what real estate, if any, has been sold under the provisions of an act entitled "An act for the sequestration of the [estates,] property, and effects of alien enemies, and for the indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and acts amending the same, where situated, and what amount has been paid into the Treasury arising from such sales;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Dupré introduced

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the safe custody, printing, publication, and distribution of the laws, and to provide for the appointment of an additional clerk in the Department of Justice;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Dupré also offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Medical Department be requested to inquire into the propriety of not receiving any more sick or wounded soldiers into the hospitals in Richmond until those now confined in the hospitals shall be discharged or furloughed, and until said hospitals are thoroughly cleansed and fumigated, and to fix a time, either by legislation or otherwise, when the sick and wounded may be admitted anew in the Richmond hospitals;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause this House to be informed what system of paying the claims of deceased soldiers is at present pursued in the Treasury Department, and whether additional legislation is necessary to insure the more speedy settlement of such claims;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. McRae introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for exemptions from military service;"

which was read the first and second times.

Mr. McRae moved that the rule requiring a reference of the bill to a committee be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to alter and amend an act entitled 'An act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States,' [approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one,]" approved February 15, 1862;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Sec. 4. In all cases of impressment just compensation shall be made for the property seized, whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use or hire only thereof is demanded. If the owner and the impressing officer can not agree upon the amount or such compensation, it shall be ascertained and determined by the judgment of three loyal and disinterested freeholders of the city, county, or parish in which the impressment is made—one to be selected by the owner, one by the impressing officer, and the third to be chosen by these two. The persons thus selected, after taking an oath to appraise the property impressed fairly and impartially, which oath the impressing officer is authorized to administer, shall proceed to assess the full value of the property seized, as well as the amount of compensation for its temporary use or hire, where that only is required; and also to determine upon the application of the impressing officer, which application is to be made only in extreme cases, what

amount of provision would furnish a liberal support for the family of the owner. And it shall be the duty of such persons to make out a certificate, to be signed by all the parties, in which the valuations herein provided for shall be declared, and the property impressed, where its temporary use or hire only is demanded, described with such minuteness as to identify it, and to deliver one copy thereof to the owner, and one to the impressing officer.

SEC. 5. Where property has been impressed for temporary use or hire, and is lost or destroyed without the default of the owner, the Confederate States shall pay the full value thereof, as ascertained under the provisions of this act. If such property, when returned, has, in the opinion of the owner, been injured whilst in the public use, the amount of damage thereby sustained shall be determined in the manner prescribed in the fourth section of this act; the officer returning the property being authorized to act on behalf of the Confederate States, and upon such inquiry, the certificate of the value of the property, when originally impressed, shall be received as conclusive evidence thereof.

SEC. 6. Any officer of the Confederate States impressing property in violation of the provisions of this act shall be liable to such punishment as the military court of the district or department to which he belongs may in its discretion inflict, unless compliance with the requirements thereof be prevented by the owner of the property, or by the public enemy. And in the latter event the impressing officer shall be liable to the penalties of this section, unless he shall cause the property seized to be appraised in the manner pointed out in this act as soon as practicable, or if this be impossible, by reason of the occupation of the enemy, then by an appraisement in the city, county, or parish most convenient to that in which the property was impressed,

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

SECTION 1. Whenever any officer having a separate command of a portion of the Army of the Confederate States shall not be supplied with quartermaster's or commissary's stores, or tools, or implements of any kind, which may be necessary for the use of the army under his command, and the exigency of the case will not admit of delay until the supplies or articles needed can be furnished him in the usual mode by the commissary or quartermaster, he shall purchase them of the person or persons possessing the same, who may be most convenient to him, paying therefor the usual market rate at the place for the same, or if he has not money to pay for the same, giving an obligation in the name of the Confederate States, payable on demand for the same.

SEC. 2. If the person or persons owning the articles needed will not consent to sell the same, or will not agree as to the price with the said officer, the officer may impress the same, but before he removes it, he shall call upon the sheriff of the county or city, if he be accessible to him, or if the sheriff be not accessible, upon the nearest magistrate accessible to him, or if there be no such magistrate, upon the nearest farmer, if in the country, or a freeholder, if in a city or town, and not interested in the property, to fix the market value of the same, who, after being sworn by the officer truthfully and impartially to perform that duty, shall ascertain and fix the said value, and furnish to each party, at the cost of the Government, a written statement thereof, signed by him. If there be any disagreement between the owner of the property impressed and the officer aforesaid as to the quantity of the article impressed, the person called on as aforesaid to fix the market value of it shall, being first sworn as aforesaid, ascertain the quantity, and state that also in his certificate aforesaid. For the price thus ascertained as aforesaid, the officer shall immediately pay the cash if he has it, and if not, he shall execute and deliver to the vendor the obligation of the Confederate Government for the same, payable on demand, and then he may remove the property purchased or impressed and not before: *Provided*, That under no circumstances shall a person be deprived by impressment of the quantity of meat, grain, flour, meal, forage, or other property necessary to the comfortable support of his family, slaves, and stock, and the working of his farm or plantation; and in the event of disagreement between the officer and owner as to what is necessary for the said purpose, the question shall be determined in the manner before prescribed as to the price. Slaves may be impressed for the purpose of laboring upon fortifications or other military works, or to act as teamsters for the Army, when they can not be hired at the usual market rates from their owners, and not otherwise; but such impressments shall always be made in conformity with the law of the State in which the impressment is made, if there be any such law. If there be no such State law, then, before any impressment is made, the following rules shall be observed, to wit: The impressing officer shall procure from the court of the city, county, or town in which the slaves to be impressed are, or from the circuit judge, the appointment of

three disinterested farmers or planters, if in the country, and freeholders if in town, being slave owners, to go with him, and in the presence of the owner of the slave, if he will attend after notification, assess the hire and ascertain the value of the slave to be impressed, and his fee simple value, of which they shall furnish each party with a certificate in writing, signed by themselves; and at the foot, or upon the back of such certificate, the impressing officer shall give to the owner a receipt for the slave or slaves impressed: *Provided, however,* That in no instance shall a slave be impressed who is under the age of eighteen or over the age of forty years, or who is unsound, or from any defect incompetent to perform the duty required of him. But the owner may, if he pleases, substitute a slave over the age of forty for one under that age, before the valuation is made, if the substitute be sound and able-bodied.

SEC. 4. The rate of impressment of slaves shall never exceed five per cent of the slaves owned by one person, exclusive of those under the age of five years and over the age of sixty-five, and where a person owns only one able male slave, he shall not be impressed.

SEC. 5. The Government shall furnish without charge to the owner all proper medical attendance and medicines for the slaves hired or impressed by it, as well as food and necessary clothing; and if any slave hired or impressed by it shall, without the connivance of the owner, run away, so that he is not returned to the owner, or die, or become diseased, maimed, or crippled in the service of the Government, the Government shall pay to the owner his assessed value and become the owner of the slave, to be subsequently disposed of as the Secretary of War may direct.

SEC. 6. All persons in every city, county, and town who own so few slaves that five per cent thereof can not be taken, shall be arranged in classes according to neighborhoods and the number of slaves owned by them, and required to furnish their quota of the slaves called for, and on failure to do so, after five days' notice, they shall each furnish one slave, who shall be impressed by the proper impressing officer.

SEC. 7. When the officer directing impressment shall be of the rank of colonel or a superior grade he shall direct the impressment by a written order, which shall express fully and minutely the things to be impressed and the course to be pursued by the impressing officer, and detail for its execution an officer, a captain or major, or both, of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Department, with such number of men, with their proper officers to aid him, as may be deemed necessary.

SEC. 8. False swearing under this act shall be deemed perjury, and punished accordingly.

SEC. 9. If any officer, noncommissioned officer, or private shall, in the performance of his duty under this act, violate its provisions, and thereby inflict wrong or injury upon any citizen, he shall be deemed to be guilty of a military offense, to be punished by a court-martial, and shall also be liable to the action of the party aggrieved for the damages inflicted.

SEC. 10. The Secretary of War may publish such orders, rules, and prescribe such forms for enforcing this act, and not inconsistent with it, as he may deem proper.

Mr. Lyons moved that the amendment offered by him be printed; which was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons also moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendment be postponed until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the first section of the bill by inserting after the word "impressment" the words "by a commissioned officer, under special order, of a grade not lower than captain."

Mr. Lyons moved to amend by striking out the whole of the first section and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

SECTION 1. Whenever any officer having a separate command of a portion of the Army of the Confederate States shall not be supplied with quartermaster's or commissary's stores, or tools, or implements of any kind, which may be necessary for the use of the army under his command, and the exigency of the case will not admit of delay until the supplies or articles needed can be furnished him in the usual mode by the commissary or quartermaster, he shall purchase them of the person or persons possessing the same, who may be most convenient to him, paying therefor the usual market rate at the place for the same, or if he has not money to pay for the same, giving an obligation in the name of the Confederate States, payable on demand for the same.

Pending the consideration of which.

The House took up the motion of Mr. Foster to reconsider the vote by which a bill of the Senate was passed, entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of assistants to the Register," etc.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

On motion of Mr. Kemmer,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Burrows.

Mr. Gartrell, by unanimous consent, offered

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. John H. Morgan and the officers and men under his command;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Atkins moved that the special committee of five to examine into frauds in transportation on railroads be enlarged by the addition of one member.

The motion was agreed to, and

The Chair appointed Mr. Foote of Tennessee.

Mr. Atkins moved to suspend the rules so as to allow the Speaker to appoint a chairman for said committee.

The motion prevailed, and

The Speaker appointed Mr. Foote chairman of said committee.

Mr. McDowell offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill providing for the sale of all negroes taken in arms against the Confederate States, the proceeds to be divided among the troops engaged in their capture.

Mr. Jones, the Delegate from the Choctaw Nation, by consent, presented the memorial of Jones & Thebo, for articles, stores, etc., furnished the Choctaw Volunteers; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Arrington presented the memorial of Col. Wharton J. Green, praying compensation for property taken by the enemy at the battle of Roanoke Island; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Ashe presented the memorial of John Manning, praying to be restored to rank and service in the Navy; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Boyce presented the memorial of sundry citizens of the State of South Carolina in relation to Sunday mails; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. McQueen presented the memorial of John P. Ellis for value of a negro lost in service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Gartrell moved that when this House adjourns to-day it adjourn to meet at 12 o'clock on Monday next.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee demanded the yeas and nays thereon:

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit:

} Yeas	41
} Nays	33 [34]

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Burnett, Chrisman, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, Marshall, McLean, Menees, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Trippe.

So the motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Strickland, leave of absence was granted Mr. Wright of Georgia, on account of sickness.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Upon which motion Mr. Royston demanded the yeas and nays;

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 26
Nays ----- 48

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Collier, Conrow, Dupré, Foote, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Lyons, Machen, Menees, Moore, Preston, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, McLean, McQueen, McKae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the House refused to resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Garnett moved to suspend the rules to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Military Affairs.

The motion prevailed.

And Mr. Garnett, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A resolution in reference to allowing commutation for deficiencies in rations,

reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to allow commutation for deficiencies in rations; which was taken up, read first and second times, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Lewis, from the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House, to which had been referred

A resolution to change the rules of the House, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

And the resolution having been read as follows, to wit:

Resolved, That hereafter the business immediately after the morning hour shall be the call of committees.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the report of the committee by adding thereto the words

That the morning hour of Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays be devoted to the call of committees.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Curry by adding thereto the words

And the chairmen of the several committees be allowed to file their reports with the Clerk of the House, which reports shall be placed on the Calendar in their respective order.

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Curry by adding thereto the words

And the Committees on Ways and Means and Military Affairs be allowed to report at any time.

Mr. Foote called the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Kenan of Georgia to the amendment of Mr. Curry was agreed to.

The amendment of Mr. Curry as amended was agreed to.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the report of the committee as amended,

The same was agreed to.

And by unanimous consent, the rule as amended was referred to the Speaker, to be placed in proper form and reported back to the House.

Mr. Royston called for the special order of the day.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost, and

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of the day; which was the consideration of the amendment of Mr. Baldwin to the first section of

A bill to authorize and regulate impressments of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes.

And Mr. Lyons having, by consent, withdrawn his amendment to the first section, the amendment of Mr. Baldwin was agreed to.

Mr. Collier moved to amend the first section by inserting before the word "property" the word "private."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, by unanimous consent, moved to strike out the word "commissioned" in the first section.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the first section by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

It shall not be lawful hereafter for any officer in the military service of the Confederate States to impress or take private property for the use of the Army or other military purpose, except when authorized in the following manner; that is to say: Whenever an officer commanding a military district or department shall become satisfied that any property within his district or department is necessary for the use of the army under his command or other military exigency pertaining to his district or department, and that the same can not be procured or obtained for such use except by impressment, he may authorize the impressment of such property by an order in writing, specifying therein the property to be impressed and the use to which it is to be applied, which order shall in all cases be exhibited to the person owning or having in possession the property to be impressed before such impressment is absolutely made; *Provided*, Such person be present at or convenient to the place where the impressment shall be made.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Gardenhire moved to amend the first section by inserting after the word "writing" the words "specifying the quantity and kind of property to be seized."

The amendment was lost.

And the House having proceeded to the consideration of the second section of the bill,

Mr. Holcombe moved to amend the same by striking out the word "employed" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "impressed."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend by adding at the end of the section the words

Provided, That no impressment of slaves shall be made where they can be hired at the usual market rates.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend by adding at the end of the section the words

And in cases of impressment under rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of War, not more than one-third of the able-bodied adult male slaves on or belonging to the premises shall be taken; nor shall any slaves be taken by impressment for a longer period than sixty days; nor shall there be a second impressment of slaves on the same premises until the first taken shall have been returned.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Upon which Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend by striking out the whole of the second section and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Slaves may be impressed for the purpose of laboring upon fortifications or other military works, or to act as teamsters for the Army, when they can not be hired at the usual market rates from their owners, and not otherwise; but such impressments shall always be made in conformity with the law of the State in which the impressment is made, if there be any such law. And if there be no such State law, then, before any impressment is made, the following rules shall be observed, to wit: The impressing officer shall procure from the court of the city, county, or town in which the slaves to be impressed are, or from the circuit judge, the appointment of three disinterested farmers or planters, if in the country, and freeholders if in town, being slave owners, to go with him, and in the presence of the owner of the slave, if he will attend after notification, assess the hire and ascertain the value of the slave to be impressed, and his fee simple value, of which they shall furnish each party with a certificate in writing, signed by themselves; and at the foot, or upon the back of such certificate, the impressing officer shall give to the owner a receipt for the slave or slaves impressed: *Provided, however*, That in no instance shall a slave be impressed who is under the age of eighteen or over the age of forty-years, or who is unsound, or from any defect incompetent to perform the duty required of him. But the owner may, if he pleases, substitute a slave over the age of forty for one under that age, before the valuation is made, if the substitute be sound and able-bodied.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

A bill to authorize the appointment of assistants to the Register in signing bonds and certificates.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend by adding at the end of the section the following, to wit:

But slaves shall not be impressed in any county or district except under authority of the President, and in ordering such impressment, due regard shall be had to the losses suffered by such county or district by the escape of slaves to the enemy, and the probable effect of the order of impressment in exciting the further escape of slaves therein.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the second section by striking out the words "required to labor on fortifications and other public works" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "necessary."

Mr. Clark demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Baldwin was lost.

And the question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Lyons, The same was lost, and the bill was engrossed.

Mr. Holcombe moved to reconsider the vote by which the House ordered the bill to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Read moved that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Goode called the question; which was upon the motion of Mr. Holcombe to reconsider the vote on the engrossment of the bill.

The question was ordered, and the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

And the bill was read a third time;

When,

Mr. Holt moved that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was lost.

And the question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which being ordered,

Are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 52
 { Nays 7

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Mummerlyn, Pugh, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Bridgers, Chambers, Dupré, Hanly, Kenner, Lyons, and Perkins.

So the bill was passed.

The Chair presented a message from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 13, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an "estimate for the incidental and contingent expenses of the Army and of the Department of War until the 30th of June next."

I recommend an appropriation [of the amount] and for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

And on motion of Mr. Foote,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. on Monday.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and

The Chair submitted the following as the amendment of rule 39, adopted by the House, viz:

Ordered, That rule thirty-nine be so amended that on each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, after the first six days of the session, the call of committees for reports

shall precede the call of the States, and after one hour spent each day in the call of States or committees, the regular order of business shall be to take up and dispose of bills, joint resolutions, etc., in the order in which they stand on the General Calendar. But this rule shall not be construed to deprive special orders of their priority, nor to prevent a postponement of the General Calendar, with a view to continue the call of States or committees.

And resolved further, That during the remainder of the present session the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Military Affairs shall have leave to report at any time.

On motion of Mr. Simpson, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Farrow, on account of sickness.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to authorize the issue of bonds for funding Treasury notes," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with amendments.

The question being on the postponement of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

The same was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue coupon bonds and certificates of stock, with interest payable semiannually, at the yearly rate of eight per cent, for such amount as may be required in exchange for all Treasury notes which are now fundable in eight per cent bonds, and also to pay for any subscription to the produce loan which may remain unpaid after exhausting the one hundred million loan.

SEC. 2. That the said Secretary is also authorized to issue coupon bonds and certificates of stock, with interest at the yearly rate of seven per cent, payable semiannually, for such amount as may be required in exchange for all Treasury notes which are now fundable in seven per cent bonds.

SEC. 3. That the said bonds or certificates shall be made payable at the end of ten years, with the express condition that the time of payment may be extended from time to time at the pleasure of the Confederate States to a period not exceeding twenty-five years more, at the same rate of interest, whenever the said securities shall become payable.

SEC. 4. That until the eight per cent bonds authorized by this act can be prepared, the Secretary shall issue in their stead the bonds authorized by the act approved April twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, entitled "An act to provide further means for the support of the Government,"

Mr. Kenner, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by striking out the whole of the third section and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That all bonds issued under this act shall be made redeemable at the pleasure of the Government after the expiration of five years from their respective dates, but the faith of the Government shall be pledged to redeem the same at the expiration of thirty years from such dates;

which was agreed to.

Mr. Kenner, from the same committee, moved further to amend the bill by striking out the whole of the fourth section and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That until the bonds authorized by this act can be prepared, the Secretary may issue in their stead certificates showing the right of the holders to demand bonds of like date and amount as soon as the same can be prepared;

which was agreed to.

The bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the bill and amendments were ordered to be immediately reported to the Senate.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to the claims of deceased soldiers, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz: S. 1. Joint resolution for the relief of Capt. John F. Divine; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Davidson, the joint resolution of the Senate for the relief of Capt. John F. Divine was taken up, read the first and second times, and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for refunding to the State of Alabama the amount overpaid by said State on account of the war tax of eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on the postponement of the bill and placing the same on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Harris, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill for the relief of certain officers and soldiers of the State of Missouri,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on the postponement of the same and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to minors holding commissions in the Army, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to allow minors to hold commissions in the armies of the Confederate States;

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing the same and placing it upon the Calendar,

The same was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to increase the monthly pay of noncommissioned officers and privates in the Army,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same, and that it lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to increase the pay of each noncommissioned officer and private in the Army of the Confederate States,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, also from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. Bankhead Magruder and the officers and men of his command at Galveston, Tex., reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing the same and placing it upon the Calendar,

The same was decided in the negative, and the joint resolution was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Miles also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. W. S. Walker and the officers and men under his command for good conduct and gallantry in the battles of Pocotaligo and Coosawhatchie,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish the general staff of the Army of the Confederate States,'" reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Royston called for the order of the day.

Mr. Miles moved that the order of the day be postponed until the bill under consideration should be disposed of.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Miles, by the unanimous consent of the House, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Joseph Wheeler and the officers and men under his command, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

The same was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution having been read as follows:

Resolved, That Congress appreciates with no ordinary feelings the bold and daring attack made by General Wheeler and his command upon the enemy's transports and gunboats on the Cumberland River, and, for the brilliant success of the enterprise, General Wheeler, his officers and men, are eminently entitled to the thanks of this Congress,

Mr. Miles moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That the thanks of Congress are due and are hereby tendered to Brigadier-General Wheeler and the officers and men of his command for his daring and successful attacks upon the enemy's gunboats and transports on the Cumberland River;

which was agreed to, and the joint resolution as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to be entitled "An act to fund the currency;" and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the bill referred to them and had arrived at no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Lyons,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Baldwin, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide just compensation for private property heretofore impressed for the use of the Army and other military purposes;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Garland, from the Committee on the Judiciary, moved that the communication of the Postmaster-General in relation to the deficit in the revenues of the Post-Office Department be printed and recommended to the Committee on the Judiciary; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Baldwin,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the issue of bonds to the Bank of Louisiana; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Garland, by unanimous consent, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to provide for punishing persons committing offenses against the Government of the Confederate States,

reported the same back and recommended its passage with an amendment.

The further consideration of the bill and amendment was postponed and placed on the Calendar.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell being in the chair, on a bill to fund the currency; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wise.

On motion of Mr. Burnett, the Committee on Pay and Mileage was authorized to employ a clerk.

A message was received from the Senate: which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 14th instant, approve and sign an act entitled

S. 1. An act to authorize the appointment of assistants to the Register in signing bonds and certificates.

Mr. Gaither, by consent, presented the following resolutions, passed by the legislature of North Carolina, to wit:

Resolutions vindicating the loyalty of the State of North Carolina and its general assembly.

Whereas various slanderous reports have been circulated, both in the State and out of it, reflecting upon the loyalty of the members of this legislature and the people of this State, and ascribing to them hostility to the Confederate Government, and a desire to reconstruct the Union: Therefore,

Be it unanimously resolved, That, as the representatives of the people, and in our own behalf as individual citizens of the State, we protest against and denounce these accusations as utterly false in letter and in spirit, as calculated to misrepresent the sentiments of those who have never faltered in the support of all constitutional measures for the prosecution of the war, and as tending to produce jealousies and heartburnings among a people who have sealed their devotion to the cause of Southern independence with their blood upon the proudest battlefields of the revolution; that the charge of a desire on the part of this legislature, or any portion of it, to conflict with the Confederate Government, or to embarrass the President in the prosecution of the war, is grossly untrue, illiberal, and slanderous; that we hereby pledge ourselves most heartily and emphatically to the most vigorous constitutional war policy, promising, in the name of North Carolina, the most liberal contribution of men and money to the support of it, and protesting against any settlement of the struggle which does not secure the entire independence of the Confederate States of America.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to communicate a copy of these resolutions to the governors of the several States of the Confederacy, and also to our own Senators and Representatives in Congress, to be laid before their respective bodies.

(Read and ratified in general assembly, this 30th day of January, A. D. 1863.)

R. S. DONNELL,
Speaker House of Commons.

R. W. LASSITER,
Speaker of Senate pro tem.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Office of Secretary of State.

I, John P. H. Russ, secretary of state, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original on file in this office.

(Given under my hand, this 11th day of February, 1863.)

JOHN P. H. RUSS,
Secretary of State.

Mr. Gaither moved that the same be laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Currin demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Boyce introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to establish a port of entry at Columbia, South Carolina;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to regulate the navigation of the Confederate States, and to establish direct trade with foreign nations;" which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Foote moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the resolutions of the North Carolina legislature, presented by Mr. Gaither, were ordered to be printed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Government of the Confederate States has witnessed with feelings of no ordinary gratification the loyalty and good faith of the larger portion of its Indian allies west of the State of Arkansas.

Resolved further, That no effort of the Confederate Government shall be spared to protect them fully in all their rights and to assist them in defending their country against the encroachments of all enemies;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. Miles also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That five thousand copies of the Journal of the Convention which framed the Provisional and Permanent Constitutions of the Confederate States, together with the Journal of the Provisional Congress, be published for the use of this House, to be distributed equally among the members: *Provided*, That each member of the Provisional Congress shall receive two copies of said Journals, and the President of the Confederate States and each of the governors of the several States five copies each;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Atkins offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to direct Adjutant-General Cooper to call upon Lieutenant-General Polk for his report (if it is not already received) of the operations of the corps d'armée under his command in the battle of Shiloh; and that it, together with the report of Brigadier-General Preston Smith, of the part performed by his command in the engagement at Richmond, Kentucky, be printed; and also the several official reports heretofore made by General B. R. Johnson, of the battles participated in by him, including those at Fort Donelson and Shiloh;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire into the case of Quartermaster Wood, as set forth in the letter of H. P. Taylor, herewith presented;

which was read and agreed to, and the accompanying letter was referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Lyons, by consent, presented the memorial of sundry members of the bar of the Confederate court at Richmond in relation to an increase of the salary of Judge Halyburton; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Read,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to fund the currency; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Lyons,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTIETH DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wise.

Mr. Chilton, by consent, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, reported as follows, viz:

The Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation, to whom was referred the resolution of this House instructing them "to make special inquiry and report as to any connection, official or otherwise, that Major Frank G. Ruffin, of the Commissary Department, may have had with the making or with the benefits of" a contract entered into between the Confederate States and Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co. for supplies of flour, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me to report: That after a full and searching investigation and an examination of all the witnesses who were supposed to be best acquainted with the facts, and after soliciting evidence by giving notice of the time and place of the sessions of the committee to all parties concerned (copies of which correspondence, together with a memorandum of the proof, are herewith submitted), the committee arrived at the conclusion that Maj. Frank G. Ruffin had no connection, either official or otherwise, with the making of said contract and no interest whatever in the benefits or profits thereof. On the contrary, the proof conclusively shows that he knew nothing of the fact that any such contract was in contemplation until after it was consummated, being absent on furlough by reason of sickness when it was made.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. CHILTON,
Chairman, etc.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the same was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of Monday, in the call of committees; which was

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to establish the general staff of the Army of the Confederate States."

Mr. Curry demanded the question; which was upon the engrossment of the bill.

The question was ordered, and the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the same,

Mr. McDowell demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas..... 53
 { Nays..... 23

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Davidson, Ewing, Freeman, Garland, Gartrell, Hanly, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Ralls, Royston, Strickland, and Trippe.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the title of the same was amended as follows: Strike out all of the original and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States.'"

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent from their commands without leave, and providing compensation to their captors,"

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the consideration of the bill be postponed until Friday next.

The motion was lost.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That from and after the passage of this act it shall be the duty of every commander of a company in the armies of the Confederate States, so soon as he knows that any private or noncommissioned officer of his company is absent without leave, to send up a certificate of the fact to the commander of his brigade, who shall forthwith employ such responsible person or persons as he may think proper to arrest and bring back to his command such absent private or noncommissioned officer.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That whenever the delinquent absentee, together with the certificate above mentioned of his company commander to the fact of his absence without leave, shall be delivered to the commanding officer of a military post or camp, such commanding officer shall give a receipt for the delivery of such absentee to the person or persons so delivering him.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That upon the presentation of the receipt above mentioned to the quartermaster of the post or camp, it shall be the duty of the said quartermaster to pay to the person or persons presenting such receipt the sum of fifteen dollars, for which this law shall be his warrant and authority.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the commanding officer of the post or camp who receives the private or noncommissioned officer so delivered, to send as speedily as practicable such private or noncommissioned officer back to the commanding officer of the company to which he belongs, together with a copy of the receipt which he has given to the person or persons delivering him.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the commanding officer of the company to which the returned private or noncommissioned officer belongs, upon the delivery of the man and the copy of the receipt above mentioned, to enter on the muster and pay rolls of the company, opposite the name of such returned private or noncommissioned officer, the full sum of fifteen dollars, in order that the said sum may be deducted from the pay of such private or noncommissioned officer.

Mr. Preston moved to amend the first section of the same by inserting after the words "without leave" the words "and has remained so absent for three days."

Mr. Foster moved to amend the amendment by striking out the word "three" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "five."

Mr. Wilcox demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Royston demanded the previous question.

The demand was not sustained, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the same section by inserting before the word "absent" the word "voluntarily."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the same section by

striking out the words "private or noncommissioned officer" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "officer, noncommissioned officer, or private;" which was agreed to.

Pending the further consideration of the bill,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, *February 17, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War in response to your resolution of the 30th ultimo with regard to Lieutenant-Colonel Broadwell.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 17, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, asking for an appropriation to meet a claim of the State of North Carolina for reimbursement of sums expended upon clothing, etc., for troops of that State in the Confederate service.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a list of all the civilians now in custody under authority of the War Department in the city of Richmond, being a response in part to your resolution of the 5th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 17, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a report of the Postmaster-General, supplemental to his report submitted to Congress at the opening of the present session, to which I invite your special attention.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

On motion of Mr. Graham,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to fund the currency; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, Senate bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, was ordered to be printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad; which was read first and second times, postponed, and made the special order immediately after the bill to fund the currency.

And on motion of Mr. E. M. Bruce,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wise.

Mr. Miles, by consent, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to be entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military duty, and to repeal all acts heretofore passed by Congress on the same subject;"

which was read the first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the bill was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chilton moved that the call of States be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and thereupon demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	57
Nays	19

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clark, Clifton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Graham, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Breckinridge, Chambliss, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, Dupré, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, McLean, Preston, Ralls, Read, Russell, Staples, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit quartermasters and others from speculating," reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

And the bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That it shall not be lawful for any quartermaster or assistant quartermaster, commissary or assistant commissary, or the clerks, agents, or employees of said officers while in the employ of the Confederate States, to buy, traffic, trade, or speculate in, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of making gain to themselves respectively, or any one or more of such persons, by a resale, any article of food or clothing, or material of which the same is made, or which enters into and constitutes a part of the same, or any article whatever which is required to be purchased for the use of the Army or the prosecution of the war by either of these departments, whether specifically named above or not, the object being entirely to prohibit these officers, their clerks, agents, and employees, from buying for the sake of gain by a resale any article which enters into and constitutes usually a part of either the quartermaster or commissary, military or medical stores of the Confederacy.*

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted, That no person shall knowingly give or accept transportation of any commodity or property of any kind under the false pretense that such commodity or property belongs to the Government of the Confederate States when in truth it belongs to private persons, nor shall anyone purchase property of any kind under the false pretense that he is purchasing the same for the use of the Government of the Confederate States when in truth the purchase is made in whole or in part on another and different account, nor shall anyone in the service of the Government derive any profit to himself, or confer profit by collusion upon another, by selling, exchanging, or disposing of any property belonging to the Government.*

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted, That no one in the employment of the Government shall credit himself for any voluntary contribution in work, labor, materials, or of any property whatever, that may be donated for the use of the Government or the soldiers in the Army whereby such person shall make any profit either directly or indirectly to himself.*

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Government officers aforesaid, and each and every person in their employ, to take a correct receipt for all moneys paid out on account of the Government, setting forth truly to whom paid, when, the amount paid, and on what account the same was paid; and if such payment was made on account of property purchased for the Government, such receipt shall truly "set forth the name of the person from whom the same was purchased, the price agreed to be paid, and the subject-matter of such purchase, and when such payment was made;" and in accounting for the disbursement of public moneys, no officer shall credit himself with moneys paid out which were not in good faith actually paid out.*

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted, That any person in the employment or service of the Government as aforesaid, and all other persons coming within the purview of this act, who shall violate any of the provisions of the foregoing sections shall be liable to indictment, and fined in a sum not less than one thousand dollars, and imprisoned not less than one year, at the discretion of the jury trying said case: *Provided*, The provisions of this act shall in no wise interfere with or impair the civil remedy which the Government may have against any of said officers or their securities or employees for frauds, peculations, or misapplication of the moneys intrusted to them, respectively, by the Confederate States,*

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the fourth section thereof by inserting after the word "purchased" the words "the place of his or her residence;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell moved to amend the fifth section thereof by inserting after the word "year" the words "nor longer than five years;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell moved further to amend the fifth section by striking out the word "jury" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "judge trying such cause."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the same section by inserting before the word "*Provided*" the words

And the State courts having criminal jurisdiction in the place where any such acts or offenses herein defined may be committed shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the Confederate courts to indict and try offenders under this act.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Gaither moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Gartrell was rejected, and thereupon demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows: } Yeas ----- 36
 } Nays ----- 41

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Gaither, Gartrell, Graham, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, and Vest.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Hodge, Holcombe, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the House refused to reconsider the vote.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the fifth section by adding thereto the following, viz:

Provided also, That all conservators of the peace who by the laws of the several States have jurisdiction to commit or bind over offenders for breaches of the criminal laws of the State in which they may reside shall have power to commit or bind over, in a sufficient recognizance, offenders against the provisions of this law, to appear at the next term of the district court of the Confederate States within the jurisdiction of which the offense was committed, for trial, in the same manner and under the same rules as if such preliminary trial were had before the judge of such district courts; which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "at the discretion of the jury trying said case" and inserting in lieu thereof the following words: "to be imposed by the judge or jury trying the cause, according to the course of judicial proceeding in force in the several States."

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the bill by adding thereto, as an additional section, the following, to wit:

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, If any quartermaster, assistant quartermaster, commissary or assistant commissary, or officer employed, or agent of any quartermaster or commissary shall take a blank receipt for any article or articles bought for the Army, he shall, on conviction, be fined in the sum of five hundred dollars, and shall be put in the ranks for the war, to serve as a private soldier.

Mr. Hodge demanded the previous question: which was ordered.

And the question being on the amendment offered by Mr. Smith of North Carolina,

Mr. Ashe demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 48
Nays 28

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Foote, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Kenner, Machen, Menees, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The question then recurring on the amendment of Mr. Dargan,

The same was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the bill was ordered to be reported immediately to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Machen, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Burnett, on account of family affliction.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of the following title, viz:

H. R. 11. An act to provide for refunding to the State of Alabama the amount overpaid by said State on account of the war tax of 1862.

They have also concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill (S. 35) to authorize the issue of bonds for funding Treasury notes.

A message was also received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 49. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to employ the best pilots for service in the Confederate Marine;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred a bill and sundry resolutions in relation to substitutes in the Army, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same lie upon the table: which was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to substitutes in the Army," with the recommendation that it pass.

The bill was read the first and second times and, on motion of Mr. Hilton, was ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Hodge, the bill for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, and for other purposes, was made a continuing special order, from day to day, until concluded.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,
The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;
When,
On motion of Mr. Wilcox,
The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,
On motion of Mr. Kenner,
The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell being in the chair, on a bill to fund the currency; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury give information in person to this House, concerning the recommendation in his recent report on the financial condition of the country.

Pending the consideration of which,
The House,
On motion of Mr. Wilcox,
Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wise.

Mr. Dargan, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the Department of Justice to offer rewards for the apprehension of fugitives from justice;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Staples, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide payment for private property impressed for public use before the passage of the act authorizing impressments;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., February 19, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, in reference to the claims of deceased soldiers, in response to your resolution of the 12th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 19, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, in response to your resolution of the 10th instant, in regard to the number of quartermasters on duty in the city of Richmond.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, *February 19, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, in response to your resolution of the 10th instant, asking for information "in regard to the quality and abundance of iron and coal to be obtained at the place in Alabama at which it is contemplated to establish a cannon foundry," etc.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to employ the best pilots for service in the Confederate Marine;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Graham, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to compensate the officers and men of the cavalry force under Major-General Van Dorn, dismounted in Arkansas, for horses lost after said cavalry force was dismounted;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Goode, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved 9th October, 1862; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of John W. Atkinson, praying compensation for a warehouse used by the Government; which was, without being read, referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Lyons also presented the memorial of William R. Ashton for property used by the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was

A bill to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent from their commands without leave, and providing compensation to their captors.

Mr. Miles moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Smith of North Carolina was rejected.

Mr. Ewing called for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: }	Yeas	24
	Nays	51

Yeas: Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Chambliss, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Dupré, Harris, Hartridge, Hodge, Holt, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Simpson, and Smith of Alabama.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Currin, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 11. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for refunding to the State of Alabama the amount overpaid by said State on account of the war tax of eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" also

S. 35. An act to authorize the issue of bonds for funding Treasury notes.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Collier moved to amend the first section by striking out the words "employ such responsible person or persons as he may think proper" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "notify the enrolling officer of the district or districts wherein such absentees are likely to be found."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting the following, viz:

SECTION 1. Any noncommissioned officer or soldier who shall, without leave of his commanding officer, absent himself from his troop, company, or detachment may be arrested by any citizen or soldier without warrant or other special authority and be delivered to the commander of his company, to the commander of any military post, or to any district or county enrolling officer.

SEC. 2. Any officer receiving such absentee shall give to the citizen or soldier by whom he shall be delivered a certificate of the fact, which shall entitle him to demand and receive from any quartermaster the sum of twenty dollars.

SEC. 3. Such absentee shall be returned to his company with a certificate of the facts; and the amount so paid for his arrest shall be deducted from his pay in addition to the other penalties provided by law.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the first section by striking out the words "private or noncommissioned officer" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "officer, noncommissioned officer, or private;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Chilton, to insert the word "voluntarily" before the word "absent," was rejected.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 57
Nays 15

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Foster, Freeman, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, McLean, McRae, Ralls, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the vote was reconsidered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendments be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Read demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Pending which,

Mr. Preston called for the order of the day.

Mr. Garnett moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to offer a resolution.

Mr. McLean demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	54
Nays	22

Yeas: Ashe, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Foote, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Hodge, Holcombe, Lyons, Marshall, Menees, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Staples, and Wright of Texas.

So the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That hereafter during the present session no one shall be allowed to speak more than once on any question pending or more than thirty minutes at one time.

Mr. Garnett demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	58
Nays	21

Yeas: Ashe, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Hanly, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Read, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Chambliss, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Holcombe, Lyons, Marshall, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Staples, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the resolution was agreed to.

which was read, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, with instructions to report a remedy for estimates

being sent by departments to the House before going through the Treasury Department.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., February 20, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Postmaster-General, submitting an estimate of the sum required for the compensation of certain officers and employees of the Post-Office Department from July 1 to October 12, 1863.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., February 20, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in response to your resolution of the 6th instant, in regard to sums invested or funded for the Cherokee Indians under the treaty of New Echota.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which, with its accompanying documents, was read, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., February 19, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Navy in regard to the destruction of the enemy's sloop Hatteras by the Confederate States steam sloop Alabama, to which I invite your attention.

The conduct of the commander, officers, and crew is commended to your favorable notice.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair presented a communication from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., February 20, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, submitting an estimate for an additional appropriation required by the Engineer Bureau for the period ending June 30, 1863.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, an amendment offered by him in Committee of the Whole was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hilton, by consent, presented the memorial of Brig. Gen. W. G. M. Davis in relation to horses lost; which was referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, without being read.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Richmond, Va., in relation to the exemption of railroad employees

Mr. Lyons moved that the same be printed and laid upon the table.
 Pending which,
 On motion of Mr. Garland,
 The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, moved to lay on the table the amendment proposed by the committee to a bill to fund the currency and all amendments thereto.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Curry moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on A bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

Upon which Mr. Jones of Tennessee demanded the yeas and nays;
 Which being ordered.

Are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 38
 { Nays----- 41

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Foote, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Harfis, Hilton, Holcombe, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, McDowell, Mences, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion did not prevail.

And the House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of secret session; which was the consideration of the motion of Mr. Baldwin to indefinitely postpone the further consideration of the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on joint resolutions concerning the present war and matters appertaining thereto.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House went into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to fund the currency, Mr. Russell being in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them, and recommended that a bill to fund the currency and amendments thereto be laid on the table; which was agreed to.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, Mr. Russell being in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Foster moved that the rule limiting debate be suspended to allow Mr. Foote to continue his remarks in Committee of the Whole. The motion did not prevail. And the House,
On motion of Mr. Garland,
Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

Mr. Curry offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That to mark the distinguished services which Lieutenant-General James Longstreet has rendered the Confederate States of America, the Speaker do invite him to take a seat upon the floor of this House;

which was read and unanimously agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Atkins, the special committee appointed to investigate frauds in transportation on railroads was authorized to employ a clerk and to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Garnett presented the petition of John Prosser Tabb, of Gloucester County, Va., in relation to the sequestration laws; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Garnett also presented a petition of William H. Seawell, praying that compensation be allowed for the services of the Twenty-first Regiment Virginia Militia; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Garnett also offered a resolution; which is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether the Government holds, or has at any time held, itself liable for the value of slaves impressed by its authority and escaping to the enemy while so impressed, and whether the owners of such slaves have been paid; also the correspondence, if any, on this subject, between the Secretary of War, the Adjutant-General, the Quartermaster-General, the Engineer Bureau, and the Attorney-General;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing to the clerks in the Government arsenal at Richmond a like increase of pay with the clerks benefited by the act of October twelfth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to send to Congress estimates of appropriations for the first half of the next fiscal year;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Garnett also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the importation from Europe of machinery and skilled workmen, for the manufacture of cottons, and of iron for the use of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Garnett introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to regulate the compensation for the use and occupation of real estate by the Army and Navy of the Confederate States;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Staples presented the memorial of A. Mahood, of Mercer County, Va., praying payment for horses lost, etc.; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Staples offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill authorizing a digest of such of the laws of the United States as are in force in the Confederate States, and also of the laws of the Provisional and Confederate Congress;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Staples introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide compensation for horses belonging to Confederate officers or soldiers, lost or captured without the default of the owner and while such owner was in the discharge of his proper duties;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Russell presented the petition of sundry members of Company G, Twenty-seventh Virginia Regiment, praying a transfer; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interests, what amount of funds have been paid into the Confederate States Treasury under the operation of the act entitled "An act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for the indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and the act amending the same, approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, together with such other information in reference to sequestered property in the hands of receivers as may be deemed pertinent to the above inquiry;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Collier presented the memorial of A. N. Douglas, praying compensation for a slave lost while impressed; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Collier also offered the following resolution, viz:

Whereas the Congress of the United States has by law authorized the raising of negro troops, to be used in the present war in the attempted subjugation of the Confederate States: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of providing by law that all negroes captured while so in the service of the United States shall, ipso facto, unless they be fugitive slaves, become the property of the captors, and shall thereafter be held and considered in all respects as slaves;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin offered a resolution; which is as follows:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of so amending the act numbered three hundred and thirteen of the Provisional Congress as to extend its provisions to all officers of the staff, including adjutants;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to direct the Secretary of War to inform this House by what authority a number of Yankee prisoners have been admitted to take the oath of fidelity to the Confederate States and have been allowed to locate as free laborers in Rockbridge County, Virginia;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire and report whether the increase of compensation provided by act of October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, chapter forty-seven, does not extend to persons employed as temporary clerks in the Executive Departments;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also presented the memorial of James M. Lilley in relation to the sequestration law; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Baldwin also presented the memorial of Col. George H. Smith, asking pay for certain officers; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the letter of Brigadier-General Pillow in regard to the means of increasing the strength of our Army be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of adopting such legislation as is therein recommended;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Lyons introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act relating to commissioners of Federal courts;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lyons also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to slaves tried and convicted in the Confederate courts;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lyons also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the fees of jailors;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of Dr. M. B. Becks, praying compensation for services rendered the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also presented the memorial of R. W. Tally, praying compensation for loss of a horse; which was referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, without being read.

Mr. Lyons also presented the memorial of Miles C. Tunstal, praying compensation for injuries to a negro; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House be authorized to pay the pages appointed under the resolution of the House three dollars per diem, estimating from the commencement of the present session, for their services, out [of the contingent] fund of the House;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the House General Loring's report of his expedition to the Kanawha Valley, with the accompanying reports of Brigadier-General Jenkins and other officers;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of S. B. Lowe;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the first section of an act entitled 'An act to amend the laws relative to the compensation of the attorneys of the Confederate States,' approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Foster offered a resolution; which is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause the Secretary of War to inform this House if official notice has been furnished the proper officers of the provisions of an act to protect the rights of owners of slaves taken by or employed in the Army. Also whether the provisions of the second and third sections of said act have been carried out;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Foster also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to conscribe certain persons therein named;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Hodge,

The House took up for consideration the special order of business; which was

A bill to be entitled "An act for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy."

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That from and after the passage of this act the Navy of the Confederate States shall consist of the following commissioned and warrant officers, to wit: Four admirals, three vice-admirals, three rear-admirals, eight commodores, fifteen captains, thirty-one commanders, thirty-one lieutenant-commanders, one hundred first lieutenants, twenty-five second lieutenants, thirty masters in line of promotion, as many ensigns as may be necessary from time to time to absorb the class of passed midshipmen, one hundred and forty-eight midshipmen, twenty paymasters, twenty assistant paymasters, one surgeon in chief and ten fleet surgeons, fifteen surgeons, fifteen passed assistant surgeons, and hereafter as many as may be necessary to absorb the passing assistants, twenty-five assistant surgeons, one engineer in chief, ten chief engineers, twenty-five first assistant engineers, thirty second assistant engineers, thirty third assistant engineers, two constructors, five assistant constructors, thirty gunners, thirty boatswains, thirty carpenters, and ten sailmakers.

SEC. 2. The vessels of the Confederate States Navy shall be divided into four classes, to be commanded as follows: First rate, having not less than four hundred officers, seamen, and marines, by commodores; second rate, having not less than two hundred and fifty and not more than four hundred officers, seamen, and marines, by captains; third rate, having not less than one hundred and twenty-five and not more than two hundred and fifty officers, seamen, and marines, by commanders; fourth rate, having one hundred and twenty-five or less officers, seamen, and marines, by lieutenant-commanders. Lieutenant-commanders may be assigned as executive officers of naval stations or of vessels commanded by commodores.

SEC. 3. Two admirals, one vice-admiral, one rear-admiral, four commodores, five captains, ten commanders, ten lieutenant-commanders, and fifteen lieutenants shall

be appointed solely for highly distinguished conduct or extraordinary heroism in the line of their profession and in conflict with the enemy. During the war these appointments in all grades above that of lieutenant-commanders shall be made from the grade immediately below the grade to be filled and without reference to the rank of the officer in such grade, and the service for which the appointment shall be conferred shall be specified in the commission. During time of peace vacancies in these grades shall be filled by regular promotion from the next below.

SEC. 4. The relative and assimilated rank between officers of the Army and Navy shall be as follows:

Admirals,	Generals,
Vice-admirals,	Lieutenant-generals,
Rear-admirals,	Major-generals,
Commodores,	Brigadier-generals,
Captains,	Colonels,
Commanders,	Lieutenant-colonels,
Lieutenant-commanders,	Majors,
Lieutenants,	Captains,
Masters and second lieutenants,	First lieutenants,
Ensigns,	Second lieutenants,
Midshipmen,	Cadets.

SEC. 5. The annual pay of the several new grades of the officers of the Navy established by this law shall be as follows: Vice and rear admirals, the same as now allowed by law to flag officers; commodores, that now allowed by law to captains; ensigns, the same as now allowed by law to passed midshipmen; assistant constructors, one thousand five hundred dollars per annum. Officers in all other grades and ranks will receive the same pay as now allowed by law.

SEC. 6. The relative and assimilated rank of officers who resigned from the United States Navy to take service in the Confederate States Navy will be determined by reference to the date of commission or warrant held by them in the United States Navy. But seniority of commission in all new grades created shall determine rank.

SEC. 7. All officers at sea or attached to sea-going vessels or receiving ships, or doing duty in camp ashore, shall be allowed one ration per diem.

SEC. 8. Midshipmen, after their final examination and graduation, if successful, shall be commissioned ensigns, taking rank according to merit.

SEC. 9. After forty-five years in the services of the United States and Confederate States combined, and faithful performance, an officer shall be permitted to retire upon leave-of-absence pay, and the President may, in his discretion, retire any officer coming within this description upon one-half the leave-of-absence pay of the grade to which he belongs.

SEC. 10. For distinguished services in battle the President may cause suitable medals to be prepared and presented to such officers, seamen, and marines as have or may hereafter merit them, to be worn on suitable occasions, as an incentive to others to win the gratitude of the nation.

SEC. 11. There shall be a sufficient number of midshipmen appointed to make up, with those already appointed, the number of one hundred and forty-eight; and the appointments to be made shall be in the States and Congressional districts which may now have none, upon the recommendation of the member of Congress from such district; and hereafter when vacancies occur, if from a district, they shall be filled upon the recommendation of the member of Congress from that district; if from the State at large (each State, under the law contemplated by this bill, being entitled to two appointments at large), upon nomination of the Senators thereof. Ten appointments shall be from the Confederacy at large, and shall be appointed by the President, in his discretion, and vacancies in them filled, in his discretion.

SEC. 12. Before any officer shall be promoted to the grade of captain, his fitness in all respects for such grade, and his ability to perform all its duties, shall be inquired of by five members of such grade, whose report thereon shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Navy, and he is empowered to convene such board.

SEC. 13. The two constructors provided for in this act shall be commissioned officers, and the five assistant constructors shall be warrant officers.

SEC. 14. All laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act shall be, and are hereby, repealed: *Provided*, That an act entitled "An act authorizing the appointment of additional officers of the Navy," approved December twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, is not to be affected by anything herein contained, nor any laws now in existence by which acting masters in the Navy are appointed.

SEC. 15. The service performed in the United States Navy by medical officers who have resigned therefrom, and are now commissioned in the Confederate States Navy, shall be considered as having been performed under their present commissions.

SEC. 16. This act shall take effect from and after its passage,

Mr. Hodge, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That from and after the passage of this act the Navy of the Confederate States shall consist of the following commissioned and warrant officers, to wit: Four admirals, three vice-admirals, three rear-admirals, eight commodores, fifteen captains, thirty-one commanders, thirty-one lieutenant-commanders, one hundred first lieutenants, twenty-five second lieutenants, thirty masters in line of promotion, as many ensigns as may be necessary from time to time to absorb the class of passed midshipmen, one hundred and forty-eight midshipmen, twenty paymasters, forty assistant paymasters, one surgeon in chief, twenty-three surgeons (senior surgeons to be fleet surgeons, with pay now allowed by law), fifteen passed assistant surgeons and hereafter as many as may be necessary to absorb the passing assistants, twenty-five assistant surgeons, one engineer in chief, fifteen chief engineers, fifty first assistant engineers, one hundred and fifty second assistant engineers, one hundred and fifty third assistant engineers, two constructors, five assistant constructors, thirty gunners, thirty boat-swains, thirty carpenters, and ten sailmakers.

Sec. 2. The vessels of the Confederate States Navy shall be divided into four classes, to be commanded as follows when said classes of ships shall be constructed, but until first and second rates are constructed the Secretary of the Navy may assign captains and commodores to the command of smaller vessels: First rate, having not less than four hundred officers, seamen, and marines, by commodores; second rate, having not less than two hundred and fifty officers, seamen, and marines, by captains; third rate, having not less than one hundred and twenty-five and not more than two hundred and fifty officers, seamen, and marines, by commanders; fourth rate, having one hundred and twenty-five or less officers, seamen, and marines, by lieutenant-commanders. Lieutenant-commanders may be assigned as executive officers of naval stations or of vessels commanded by commodores.

Sec. 3. Two admirals, one vice-admiral, one rear-admiral, four commodores, five captains, ten commanders, ten lieutenant-commanders, and fifteen lieutenants shall be appointed solely for highly distinguished conduct or extraordinary heroism in the line of their profession and in conflict with the enemy. During the war these appointments in all grades above that of lieutenant-commanders shall be made from the grade immediately below the grade to be filled and without reference to the rank of the officer in such grade, and the service for which the appointment shall be conferred shall be specified in the commission. During time of peace vacancies in these grades shall be filled by regular promotion from the next below.

Sec. 4. The relative and assimilated rank between officers of the Army and Navy shall be as follows:

Admirals will take rank with generals.

Vice-admirals will take rank with lieutenant-generals.

Rear-admirals will take rank with major-generals.

Commodores will take rank with brigadier-generals.

Captains will take rank with colonels.

Commanders will take rank with lieutenant-colonels.

Lieutenant-commanders will take rank with majors.

Lieutenants will take rank with captains.

Masters and second lieutenants will take rank with first lieutenants.

Ensigns will take rank with second lieutenants.

Midshipmen will take rank with cadets.

Sec. 5. The annual pay of the several new grades of the officers of the Navy established by this law shall be as follows: Vice and rear admirals, the same as now allowed by law to flag officers; commodores, that now allowed by law to captains; ensigns, the same as now allowed by law to passed midshipmen; constructors, two thousand six hundred dollars; assistant constructors, one thousand five hundred dollars per annum. Officers in all other grades and ranks will receive the same pay as now allowed by law.

Sec. 6. The relative and assimilated rank of officers who resigned from the United States Navy to take service in the Confederate States Navy will be determined by reference to the date of commission or warrant held by them in the United States Navy. But seniority of commission in all new grades created shall determine rank.

Sec. 7. All officers at sea or attached to seagoing vessels or receiving ships, or doing duty in camp ashore, shall be allowed one ration per diem.

Sec. 8. Midshipmen, after their final examination and graduation, if successful, shall be commissioned ensigns, taking rank according to merit.

SEC. 9. After forty years in the services of the United States and Confederate States combined, and faithful performance of duty, an officer shall be permitted to retire upon leave-of-absence pay, and the President may, in his discretion, retire any officer coming within this description upon one-half the leave-of-absence pay of the grade to which he belongs.

SEC. 10. For distinguished services in battle the President may cause suitable medals to be prepared and presented to such officers, seamen, and marines as have or may hereafter merit them, to be worn on suitable occasions, as an incentive to others to win the gratitude of the nation.

SEC. 11. There shall be a sufficient number of midshipmen appointed to make up, with those already appointed, the number of one hundred and forty-eight; and the appointments to be made shall be in the States and Congressional districts which may now have none, upon the recommendation of the member of Congress from such district; and hereafter when vacancies occur, if from a district, they shall be filled upon the recommendation of the member of Congress from that district; if from the State at large (each State, under the law contemplated by this bill, being entitled to two appointments at large), upon nomination of the Senators thereof. Ten appointments shall be from the Confederacy at large, and shall be appointed by the President, in his discretion, and vacancies in them filled, in his discretion. All persons appointed shall be within the ages of fourteen and seventeen years.

SEC. 12. The Secretary of the Navy is authorized to establish a school for the instruction of midshipmen, under such regulations as he may prescribe, to be approved by the President, the annual expenditure for the support of which shall not exceed ten thousand dollars.

SEC. 13. Before any officer shall be promoted to the grade of captain, his fitness in all respects for such grade, and his ability to perform all its duties, shall be inquired of by five members of such grade, whose report thereon shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Navy, and he is empowered to convene such board.

SEC. 14. The two constructors provided for in this act shall be commissioned officers, and the five assistant constructors shall be warrant officers.

SEC. 15. The service performed in the United States Navy by medical officers who have resigned therefrom, and are now commissioned in the Confederate States Navy, shall be considered as having been performed under their present commissions.

SEC. 16. All laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act shall be, and are hereby, repealed: *Provided*, That an act entitled "An act authorizing the appointment of additional officers of the Navy," approved December twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, is not to be affected by anything herein contained, nor any laws now in existence by which acting masters in the Navy are appointed.

SEC. 17. The service performed in the United States Navy by medical officers who have resigned therefrom, and are now commissioned in the Confederate States Navy, shall be considered as having been performed under their present commissions.

SEC. 18. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the tenth section thereof by striking out the word "nation" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "country;" which was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the eleventh section by striking out the word "seventeen" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "eighteen;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the third section by striking out the words "and in conflict with the enemy."

Mr. Kenner demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Kenner demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of the committee as amended was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Chambers moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Chambers moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Machen demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. McLean demanded the question.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost, and the question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 50
 } Nays ----- 21

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Chambers, Curry, Foster, Gardenhire, Hanly, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Marshall, McDowell, Perkins, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Foote moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. H. W. Bruce demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 29
 } Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clark, De Jarnette, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Marshall, Perkins, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, and Wilcox.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session: and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion of Mr. Atkins,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Perkins presented a protest against the legislation of the House in regard to a foreign loan, to be negotiated by Messrs. Erlanger &

Co., bankers, of Paris, under a contract drawn by their attorney, Jules Beer, signed by the following members, viz: Messrs. Royston, Foster, Chambers, Perkins, Hanly, Foote, Smith of North Carolina, Marshall, Chilton, and Clopton.

And the question being upon receiving the same,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are as follows, to wit: { Yeas	25
{ Nays	39

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Royston, Sexton, Trippe, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Ralls, Read, Russell, Simpson, Strickland, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the House refused to receive the protest.

Mr. Foster moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

And on motion of Mr. Curry,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment and proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent from their commands without leave, and providing compensation to their captors."

The yeas and nays having been ordered on the motion of Mr. Perkins to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of the bill and amendments,

The same are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	25
{ Nays	49

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Bréckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Foote, Gartrell, Hanly, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McDowell, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Swan, Vest, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the second section of the bill was amended by inserting the word "voluntarily" before the word "absent."

Mr. Miles, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the third section by striking out the words "fifteen dollars" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "thirty dollars."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Crockett moved to amend the bill by striking out the third section thereof.

Mr. Machen demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the third section by inserting after the words "fifteen dollars" the words "noncommissioned officers or privates and the sum of thirty dollars for commissioned officers;" which was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

H. R. 2. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. Bankhead Magruder and officers and men of his command at Galveston, Tex.

They have also passed a bill (S. 50) to increase the pay of acting midshipmen in the Navy;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the bill by striking out all the remaining sections thereof.

Pending which,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, Mr. Welsh was excused from further service on the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

On motion of Mr. Russell, leave of absence was granted Mr. Johnston.

Mr. Foote, by consent, from the special committee appointed to investigate the facts connected with the fall of Forts Donelson and Henry, to which was referred the case of Maj. V. K. Stevenson, quartermaster, etc., reported:

That since this committee heretofore reported upon the matters originally referred to them they have had the case of Quartermaster Stevenson under examination, and especially the accounts of that officer with the Government, that they have not had it in their power to examine the numerous vouchers appertaining to the accounts of Major Stevenson, which are on file in the proper department, but that, through their Chairman, they have held a special correspondence on this subject with the Quartermaster-General, which correspondence is herewith presented, upon the basis of which they beg leave to say that it seems to them that they might well be discharged from the further investigation of this affair, and they do therefore ask to be discharged accordingly;

which was read, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, notifying the House that on the 20th instant he approved and signed an act entitled

H. R. 11. An act to provide for refunding to the State of Alabama the amount overpaid by said State on account of the war tax of 1862.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of the presiding judge of the county of New Kent, Va., praying compensation for the burning of the county jail by the Confederate troops; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Miles presented the memorial of Joseph A. Yates, of South Carolina, praying compensation for the use of a patent by the Gov-

ernment; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Garnett presented the memorial of William S. Smith, of Elizabeth City County, Va., praying compensation for a slave lost; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Ashe,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, Mr. Russell being in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Atkins moved that the rule limiting debate be suspended during the consideration in the Committee of the Whole of a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

Upon which Mr. Jones of Tennessee demanded the yeas and nays; Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 47
Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Cur-
rin, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Garland, Gartrell,
Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon,
Lyons, Marshall, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Russell,
Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Welsh,
Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce,
Clark, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Freeman,
Gaither, Garnett, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia,
Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McDowell, McLean,
McQueen, McRae, Miles, Preston, Read, Royston, Singleton, Smith
of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Trippé, Vest, Wright of Geor-
gia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion did not prevail. •

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution to allow Mr. Curry to conclude his remarks in Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

Upon which Mr. Jones of Tennessee demanded the yeas and nays; Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 44
Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Cham-
bers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Dargan, Davidson,
De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Garland, Gartrell, Gra-
ham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenner,
Lewis, Lyon, Marshall, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls,
Russell, Sexton, Staples, Strickland, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas,
and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Trippe, Vest, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion did not prevail, and

The House, on motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Foote,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Schon.

Mr. Lyons announced the presence of Samuel A. Miller, a Representative-elect from the State of Virginia, who came forward, was qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. Swan, by consent, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Braxton Bragg and the officers and soldiers under his command for gallant conduct in the battles near Murfreesboro, Tenn.;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Harris presented a letter from G. Tochman in relation to his rank; which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Ralls offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the regular hour for meeting for the remainder of the session shall be at eleven o'clock antemeridian.

Mr. Garland moved to lay the same upon the table.

Mr. Royston demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 38
Nays ----- 37

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Crockett, Dupré, Ewing, Garland, Harris, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Elliott, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Hanly, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina,

Marshall, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, and Wright of Georgia.

So the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Ralls presented the petition of A. D. McCoy, concerning an increase of the pay of chaplains; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to take into consideration, and at its earliest convenience report to this House, a bill providing for taking the census of the Confederate States, as required by the third clause of the second section of the first article of the Constitution;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chilton also presented joint resolutions expressing the sense of Congress as to the necessity for raising provisions and the impolicy of planting for large crops of cotton and tobacco during the year 1863; which were read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Chilton also presented a design for a Confederate flag and seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Royston introduced a joint preamble and resolutions respecting the payment of the usual currency of the Confederate States to the officers and employees thereof; which were read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Royston also offered a resolution; which is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire what further legislation is necessary in order to secure the payment of claims existing against the Government for subsistence and supplies furnished for the use of the Army, and for which informal certificates or vouchers have been executed, and that they report by bill or otherwise;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Garland introduced

A joint resolution authorizing the Postmaster-General to use certain revenues of the Post-Office Department in payment of its liabilities; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 20th instant, approve and sign a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 35. An act to authorize the issue of bonds for funding Treasury notes.

Mr. Hanly presented a report of General Hindman of the battle of Prairie Grove, and moved that the same be printed and laid upon the table.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House refused to receive the report.

Mr. Hilton presented resolutions passed by the legislature of the State of Florida in relation to the conscription of officeholders; which are as follows, to wit:

Resolutions relative to persons holding office in the State of Florida under the Confederate Government, subject to the conscript act.

Be it resolved by the senate and the house of representatives of the State of Florida, in general assembly convened, That our Representatives in Congress be, and they are hereby, instructed to use their influence with the proper department at Richmond to carry the following resolution into effect, viz:

Be it resolved, That all persons holding office in the State of Florida under the Confederate Government, subject to the military service under the conscript act, be

removed and their places filled with persons not subject to the military service under said conscript act.

Passed the house of representatives December 8, 1862. Passed the senate December 10, 1862. Approved by the governor December 12, 1862;

which were ordered to be printed and laid upon the table.

Mr. Hilton also presented the memorial of Capt. George Holmes, of the Marine Corps, in relation to the settlement of his accounts with the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Wright of Georgia, the rules were suspended to allow the Committee on Medical Department to make a report, and

Mr. Wright of Georgia, from the Committee on Medical Department, moved that a bill reported back from said committee, to be entitled "An act to reorganize and promote the efficiency of the medical branch of the military service," be ordered to be printed and made the special order of business for Wednesday, March 4, 1863; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clark, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to be entitled "An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals,"

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same, and that it be laid upon the table and ordered to be printed; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clark also presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Jasper County, Ga., praying that their mail facilities be allowed to remain unchanged; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. Clark also presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Franklin County, Ga., praying the establishment of a mail route from Athens, Ga., to Carnesville, Ga.; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. Trippe offered a resolution: which is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to furnish for the consideration of this House a copy of the official report of Major-General T. C. Hindman of the late battle of Prairie Grove;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Munnerlyn offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the necessity of reporting additional legislation to facilitate transfers from the Army to the Navy;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell,

A bill to aid committees of Congress in the investigations of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees, was taken up and made the special order of business for the morning hour of Friday, the 27th instant.

Mr. Wright of Georgia presented the memorial of W. S. Cothran, praying compensation for flour impressed for the use of the Army; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

Mr. Hodge offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be requested to call upon Major-General John C. Breckinridge for his official report of the operations of his command at the battles of Shiloh, Baton Rouge, and Murfreesboro, and that when received copies thereof shall be sent to this House and shall be printed;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the rule limiting speeches to thirty minutes each is hereby rescinded.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to suspend the rule requiring the resolution to lie over for two days.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 33
Nays ----- 46

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Holcombe, Lyons, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chrisman, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, and Wright of Georgia.

So the House refused to suspend the rules.

Mr. H. W. Bruce also offered the following resolution, viz:

Whereas it is reported by the press of the Confederate States that the following article has been published in a newspaper in the city of Chicago, in the United States, known as the Chicago Times, viz:

"During the night of Sunday twelve of the Confederate prisoners confined in the pens at Camp Douglas were frozen to death. On Monday morning they were found in the miserable handful of hay in their bunks frozen stiff, though to all appearances in the enjoyment of perfect health the day previous. The barracks at Camp Douglas are well known to be totally unfitted, during the prevalence of such weather as the present, for the use of anything, scarcely cattle. Those in which these prisoners are confined are many of them destitute of stoves, the windows in some of them are broken out, and through the holes and cracks in their sides and the apertures in the roof the cold wind freely enters. There are those above them who have a terrible sin to answer for. It were mercy that, after their capitulation, our cannon had been turned upon these prisoners and butchered them where they stood than that, from a far Southern clime, without any preparation being made for their comfort or protection, they should be transported hither to meet with scarcely anything worthy the name of shelter, the fierce rigors of a Northern winter—to be murdered by neglect, to endure the tortures of a death by cold."

Whereby it appears that twelve prisoners of the Confederate Army in the hands of the Abolition authorities of the United States have been murdered by forcibly confining them in a rigorous climate, in intensely cold weather, without any adequate means for their protection and the preservation of their lives, against the severity of the Northern climate into which they were forcibly taken: Therefore, it is

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause inquiry to be made by one of our commissioners for the exchange of prisoners, or by such other means as he may deem expedient, whether the facts stated in said article are true, and if true, whether said prisoners were willfully so exposed, in order to put them to death, and if this be the fact, that he be requested to take proper steps to retaliate upon the enemy for their worse than brutal murder;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Crockett introduced joint resolutions of thanks to Gen. Braxton Bragg and the officers and privates composing the Army of Tennessee for their recent operations near Murfreesboro; which were read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The Chair laid before the House additional testimony in the contested-election case of Johnson *vs.* Garland; which was laid upon the table.

The Chair also presented the petition of Elisha E. Hundley, of Charlotte County, Va., praying permission to carry out cotton and naval stores; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Conrad, sundry resolutions appertaining to the subject offered by him to a bill, in Committee of the Whole, were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Perkins moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the resolution offered by Mr. Lyons increasing the pay of pages was agreed to.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the same by striking out all of the original and inserting in lieu thereof the following, *viz*:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the act of Congress approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, providing for an increase of the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments, does include the pages; and, therefore, that the Clerk of this House be directed to pay said pages the sum of three dollars per day, computing from the beginning of the present session.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, the resolution and amendment were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

And on motion of Mr. Ralls,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, Mr. Russell in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Perkins,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-SIXTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

Mr. Foster, by unanimous consent, presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Alabama, praying compensation for the loss of the steamboat Time, destroyed by order of the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Foster also, by consent, presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Alabama, praying compensation for the loss of steamboat

Julius H. Smith; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Barksdale, by unanimous consent, from the Committee on Printing, to which was referred a resolution to print 5,000 copies of the Journal of the Convention which framed the Provisional and Permanent Constitutions of the Confederate States, together with the Journal of the Provisional Congress, etc., reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with the following amendment, viz: Strike out the words "five thousand" and insert in lieu thereof the words "two thousand five hundred."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell demanded the question; which was ordered, and was on agreeing to the resolution as amended.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 54
Nays ----- 25

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bridgers, Chrisman, Conrow, Curry, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Lander, Machen, McDowell, Ralls, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the resolution as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, was ordered to be printed and made the special order of business for Monday next, and from day to day until concluded.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 2. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. Bankhead Magruder and officers and men under his command at Galveston, Tex.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Chambliss, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to perpetuate testimony in cases of slaves abducted or harbored by the enemy, and of other property seized, wasted, or destroyed by them,' approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was

A bill to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent [from their commands] without leave, and providing compensation to their captors.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Foote to strike out the fourth and fifth sections of the bill,

Mr. Holt moved that the bill and amendments be laid upon the table.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 51
 } Nays----- 31

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Mences, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Strickland, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill and amendments were laid upon the table.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 44. An act to amend the law in relation to assistant treasurers and depositaries; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled

S. 44. An act to amend the law in relation to assistant treasurers and depositaries;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 25, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information communications from the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney-General, in regard to the sequestration of real estate belonging to alien enemies, in response to your resolution of the 12th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 25, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, in reference to the amount of funds paid into the Treasury under the operation of the sequestration act, in response to your resolution of the 21st instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

THIRTY-SEVENTH DAY—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Richmond, February 23, 1863.

To the House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Postmaster-General, with accompanying papers, in reply to the resolution of your body of October 13, 1862, asking information relative to the telegraphic companies in the Confederate States, the expenditures of the Government in that connection, and "such other information as may be deemed useful in determining the policy and practicability of merging the telegraph in the postal system of the Confederate States."

The documents presented contain all of the information that it is practicable at present to furnish.

As to the propriety of merging the telegraph in the postal system, it may well be doubted whether the development of the art of telegraphing would be better promoted by withdrawing the management of the lines from private companies and placing it in the hands of the Government, and it is also doubted whether the present is an opportune time so largely to increase the administrative labors of the Executive Departments.

The extension of executive patronage involved, the political effect of giving the Government control of the transmission of the first intelligence, as well as the question of constitutional power, were, it is to be supposed, considered by the House before transmitting the resolution, and are, therefore, not regarded as proper subjects for remark on this occasion.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to increase the pay of acting midshipmen in the Navy;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved that the rules be suspended and the House take up for consideration a motion (of Mr. Ralls) to reconsider the vote by which a bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the transfer of troops, and to repeal an act entitled 'An act in relation to the transfer of troops,' approved September twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," was passed.

Mr. Vest demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 58
 { Nays----- 19

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hodge, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Barksdale, Clark, Collier, Conrow, De Jarnette, Dupré, Freeman, Garland, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Royston, and Staples.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Hodge demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	Yea-----	76
	Nay-----	4

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridges, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kemmer, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Breckinridge, Hodge, Lyons, and Read.

So the resolutions were engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the resolutions were passed.

Mr. Miles, from the Military Committee, to which was referred

A bill relative to orders from heads of Departments, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles also, from the same committee, reported

A joint resolution relative to general orders issued from the Adjutant-General's Office:

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the joint resolution on the Calendar,

The same was decided in the negative, and the joint resolution was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion of Mr. Garland,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, Mr. Russell in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Collier, amendments of Messrs. Dupré and Machen to a bill under consideration in Committee of the Whole were ordered to be printed.

And on motion of Mr. Ralls,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-EIGHTH DAY—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Duncan.

Mr. McQueen moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the message of the President in relation to the telegraph was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads; which was agreed to.

Mr. McQueen moved that the same, with its accompanying documents, be printed; which was agreed to, and

On motion of Mr. McQueen, the message and accompanying documents were again referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Farrow moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 12 o'clock on Monday.

Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 24
Nays 48

Yeas: Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambliss, Conrow, Currin, Dupré, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Hanly, Hodge, Holcombe, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Simpson, Vest, Villeré, Wileox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 10. An act in relation to substitutes;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Arrington, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Gaither, on account of sickness in his family.

On motion of Mr. Pugh, the rules were suspended to allow him to present the memorial of Messrs. Pruitt & Jenkins, praying compensation for losses sustained by them at Murfreesboro, Tenn.; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Barksdale, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Singleton, on account of sickness in his family.

Mr. Atkins moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to present a memorial; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Atkins presented the memorial of Charles C. Smedley in relation to the capture of the steamer R. M. Patton; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Vest moved that the House reconsider the vote by which a bill was passed entitled "An act to provide for the arrest of soldiers absent

from their commands without leave, and providing compensation to their captors."

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Smith of North Carolina,

Mr. Smith, by consent, withdrew the same and offered in lieu thereof the following, viz:

Strike out all after the word "in," in fifth section, and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz: "such sum not exceeding one thousand dollars and imprisoned for such length of time not exceeding one year, or both, as the court may adjudge."

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the bill by adding thereto as an additional section the following, to wit:

SEC. 6. The officer of the House of Representatives and Senate authorized to execute subpoenas under this act shall be entitled to two dollars and fifty cents for every subpoena or other process served by them, and ten cents for every mile actually and necessarily traveled by them in such service; but when more than one process is served during the same trip, only one mileage shall be allowed, including mileage for the distances between the residences of the various persons on whom process is served; and witnesses attending and testifying before committees and commissioners under this act, in obedience to subpoenas executed upon them, shall be allowed the same pay and mileage which are now allowed by law to witnesses for going to and attending the Confederate courts—the payments to be made under this section out of the contingent fund of Congress, and to be paid upon the certificate or warrant of the chairman or presiding member of the committee for which such service may have been performed.

Mr. Chilton, by consent, moved to amend the first section of the bill by inserting the words "by order of the committee;" which was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the rules be suspended to allow the Committee on the Judiciary to report

A bill to continue in force an act authorizing the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, approved October 13, 1862.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill authorizing the acceptance of troops from the States of Kentucky and Missouri for a term of service less than three years, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same, and that it lie upon the table.

Pending the consideration of which,

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill entitled
S. S. An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war;
In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion,

The House adjourned till 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Foote,

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-NINTH DAY—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Duncan.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 27, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, containing a list of the civilian prisoners now in custody at the military prison at Salisbury, N. C., in further response to your resolution of the 5th instant, and invite attention to the recommendation in regard to a class of officers to be charged with the special duty of inquiring into the cases of prisoners arrested by military authority. I think such officers would be useful, they being selected for special qualifications and invested with specific powers.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 27, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information communications from the Secretaries of the Treasury, of War, and of the Navy, in reference to claims for vessels seized for public use, in response to your resolution of the 5th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 30, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, forwarding copies of "orders of impressment," in reply to your resolution of the 15th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act in relation to substitutes;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war;" which

was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. E. M. Bruce, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred joint resolutions of thanks to Gen. J. H. Morgan and the officers and men under his command, reported the same back, with the recommendation that they pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

The same was decided in the negative.

The resolutions were taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress and the country are due to General John H. Morgan and the officers and men under his command for the many heroic and gallant deeds performed by them since the commencement of this war; but more especially are they entitled to the love and gratitude of their countrymen for the magnificent feat accomplished by them in October last, whereby middle Tennessee was preserved to this Government, marching, in forty-eight hours, one hundred and ten miles, fighting a battle, capturing and paroling several hundred prisoners within the enemy's lines, and afterwards destroying seventy miles of railroad, thereby preventing the Federal general from concentrating his forces in Tennessee until General Bragg had withdrawn his army from Kentucky and was prepared to meet him at Murfreesboro; and for their recent raid into Kentucky, where they marched through a country swarming with enemies, and, after capturing many prisoners, destroyed about sixty miles of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to within eighteen miles of Louisville, this being the road by which the immense supplies necessary for the support of the army of Rosecrans had been, prior to its destruction, transported,

The committee moved to amend the same by striking out all of the original and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States, That the thanks of Congress are due and are hereby tendered to General John H. Morgan, officers and men of his command, for their varied heroic and invaluable services in Tennessee and Kentucky immediately preceding the battles before Murfreesboro, services which have conferred upon their authors fame as enduring as the records of the struggle which they have so brilliantly illustrated.

The amendment was agreed to, and the joint resolutions as amended were engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. E. M. Bruce also offered the memorial of sundry citizens of Boone County, Ky., praying compensation for property lost in Confederate service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Moore offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That two bills from the Committee on the Judiciary, on the subject of the election of members to the next Congress of the Confederate States, be printed, under the direction of said committee, for the use of this House;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chrisman offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate adjourn their respective Houses on Monday, the sixteenth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, at twelve o'clock meridian.

Mr. Breckinridge demanded the question.

The demand was not sustained.

Mr. Jones moved to lay the resolution upon the table.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Years----- 37 [38]
 } Days----- 34

Years: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Burksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Dupré, Ewing.

Farrow, Foote, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Tibbs, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Batson, Breckinridge, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Hart-ridge, Hodge, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the resolution was laid upon the table.

Mr. Read offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Rules be instructed to consider the propriety of so amending the rules of this House as to make all motions for the reconsideration of any vote by which a bill or resolution shall have passed this House take precedence over any special order, and that it shall be the privilege of any member to call up such motion of reconsideration whenever the State shall be called of which he is a member, for memorials and other business, and that they report their deliberations thereon;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Conrad offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of increasing the pay of medical officers of the Army on duty in the field;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Conrad also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Clerk of this House return the papers sent to this House, in response to a resolution in reference to the case of Lieutenant-Colonel Broadwell, to the President, and respectfully call his attention to the fact that no answers to the interrogatories contained in the resolutions have been sent, and respectfully request that the omission be supplied;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Dupré introduced

A bill relative to the subsistence of officers and enlisted men; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to inform Congress the amount of cotton purchased for the Government in Louisiana, specifying the names of the individuals by whom bought, and whether paid for in bonds or notes, and at what average price, together with the names of the agents that have been heretofore, and are now, employed by the Government in purchasing cotton in Louisiana, and whether any discrimination has been made by them in their purchase between the producers of the article and those who hold it on speculation. Also the regulations which have been adopted by said agents under instructions from the Department, either for the purchase or security of said cotton;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Perkins also offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Medical Department be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law as to permit the Surgeon-General to direct any surplus of funds on hand in the hospital fund to be expended in the purchase of such articles as he may deem required by the sick and wounded of the Army;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Marshall offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, such guarantees of the indebtedness of the Confederate States as may be made by the separate States should apply first to bonds and Treasury notes that may hereafter be issued;

which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Smith of Alabama, Staples, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gardenhire, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the rules were not suspended, and

On motion of Mr. Chambers, the bill was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Royston, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Lyons, on account of sickness in his family.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

And on motion of Mr. Royston,

Adjourned until 12 o'clock Monday.

* SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Lyon moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Lyon offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the debate on the bill and amendments now pending in Committee of the Whole, entitled "A bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes," be closed on Monday next, at three o'clock postmeridian.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Lyon by striking out the word "Monday" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Tuesday."

The amendment was lost.

And the question being on agreeing to the resolution of Mr. Lyon,

The same was adopted.

Mr. Curry moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion did not prevail, and

The House, on motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, Mr. Russell in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Moore moved to suspend the rules to allow him to introduce a bill for reference.

The motion was lost.

And on motion of Mr. Foote,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTIETH DAY—MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was

A bill authorizing the acceptance of troops from the States of Kentucky and Missouri for a term of service less than three years.

The question being on discharging the committee from its further consideration and laying the same upon the table.

Mr. Kenner demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the committee was discharged from its further consideration.

The question then being on laying the same upon the table.

Mr. Harris demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 46
Nays ----- 37 [38]

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Elliott, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lyon, McLean, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garland, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Moore, Preston, Simpson, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was laid upon the table.

Mr. Read moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was laid upon the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill entitled
S. 36. An act to increase the strength and efficiency of heavy artillery for seacoast defense;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman,

reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Chambers moved to reconsider the vote on the passage of the resolution offered by Mr. Lyon closing debate in Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

Mr. Wright of Georgia demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Wright of Georgia moved to suspend the rule limiting debate in order to enable him to introduce a resolution to permit Mr. Kenner to conclude his remarks in Committee of the Whole, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

The motion was lost, and

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole. Mr. Russell in the chair, on a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-FIRST DAY—TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Reed.

On motion of Mr. Kenan of Georgia, the rules were suspended to enable him to offer a resolution, and

Mr. Kenan offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the further consideration of all questions, reports, bills, and resolutions be suspended until the currency and tax bills are acted upon, and that immediately upon the reading of the Journal each morning the House will proceed to the consideration of these measures.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the question; which was ordered, and

Mr. Harris demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 67
Nays 10

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Farrow, Foote, Graham, Harris, Marshall, McLean, Sexton, Simpson, and Wright of Texas.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Foster moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into secret session;^a and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Baldwin, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties;

which was read the first and second times.

And the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, the bill was ordered to be printed and made the special order immediately after the bill to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, and from day to day until disposed of.

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FORTY-SECOND DAY—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Reed.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., March 3, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of the reports of Generals Polk, Hardee, and Cheatham of the part borne by their commands in the battle of Shiloh, April 6 and 7, 1862.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Heiskell moved that the usual number of extra copies be printed.

The motion was referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to increase the strength and efficiency of heavy artillery for seacoast defense;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Jones moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Dupré demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Y	Yeas	45
N	Nays	30

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Boyce, Bridges, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Mences,

^aThe Journal of this secret session has not been found.

Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Holecombe, Marshall, Preston, Read, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Wright of Georgia.

So the House resolved itself into secret session;^a and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When, on motion,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FORTY-THIRD DAY—THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Reed.

Mr. Collier moved to suspend the rules to allow him to introduce a memorial.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Boteler moved to suspend the rules to allow him to introduce a bill.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Ralls moved to suspend the rules to allow him to introduce a resolution in reference to the hour of meeting.

The motion was lost.

The Chair presented the following communication from the President, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., March 4, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of additional funds required for the service of the Ordnance Bureau for the period ending June 30, 1863.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The following message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill entitled

S. 60. An act to authorize the appointment of a register and an additional clerk and a draftsman for the Navy Department.

They have also passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 7. Joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Capt. Raphael Semmes, of the Confederate steam sloop Alabama, and the officers and crew under his command for their good conduct in sinking the United States sloop Hatteras on the 13th [11th] of January, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House then resolved into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved into open session;

When, on motion,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

^aThe Journal of this secret session has not been found.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. E. M. Bruce moved that a committee, to be composed of one member from each State, be appointed by the Chair to investigate his conduct in relation to contracts with the Government, and also in relation to the foreign loan.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the motion of Mr. Bruce by striking out the whole thereof and inserting in lieu of the same the following, to wit:

Resolved, That a committee of one member from each State be appointed to examine into the facts this moment disclosed by an honorable member from Kentucky, and that said committee be instructed to inquire into the propriety of members of Congress and other official functionaries, to whom the facts connected with the loan lately effected with certain French bankers had become confidentially known, taking advantage of said knowledge by becoming either directly or indirectly interested in said loan; and that said committee do further inquire whether or not such participation in said loan on the part of members of this House or other public functionaries has actually occurred; and that said committee do inquire further as to the propriety of any member of this House supplying advice to any individual not a member of the same as to the expediency of participating in said loan, and that said committee report their proceedings herein to this House.

Mr. Hodge moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Foote by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed by the Chair, who shall investigate and make inquiry into the charges or rumors against the Honorable E. M. Bruce, and report to this House whether there is any foundation for any charge involving the integrity of the Honorable E. M. Bruce, or any other member of this House, in connection with improper contracts with the Government, and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Garland moved to lay the resolution and amendments on the table.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 48
 } Nays ----- 33

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Mumerlyn, Pugh, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hilton, Kenner, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Swan, Tibbs, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Ralls offered the following resolutions:

Whereas the Honorable E. M. Bruce has stated that he did at one time order funds to be invested in the French loan, and subsequently revoked the same: Therefore,

Resolved, That this House is satisfied from the full, frank, and voluntary statement made in regard to the matter that the honorable member had no evil or improper design in the matter.

Resolved, That, while expressing the opinion as above, this House does not mean to declare that it is proper for the members of the House to engage in loans that have been authorized in secret session by the body of which they are members.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend the resolutions of Mr. Ralls by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the statement of the Honorable E. M. Bruce, touching certain contracts with the Confederate Government mentioned by him freely, acquits him from every charge of improper conduct, and that this House holds him blameless in his connection with the French loan, and also for his investments in cotton.

Mr. Garnett moved that the further consideration of the subject be indefinitely postponed.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which are recorded,

And are as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 41
 { Nays----- 34

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Burnett, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hart-ridge, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Preston, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Farrow, Foster, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenner, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Virginia, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Machen moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 41
 { Nays----- 37

Yeas: Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gray, Hartridge, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion prevailed.

And the question being on the indefinite postponement of the resolution and amendment,

The same was lost.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Chambers to the resolution of Mr. Ralls,

So the resolution was passed.

And the question being on agreeing to the preamble,

The same was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, an amendment of the Committee on Ways and Means to the tax bill was ordered to be printed.

And on motion of Mr. Collier,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-FOURTH DAY—FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Reed.

On motion of Mr. Lander, leave of absence was granted Mr. McLean, on account of pressing business.

The Chair presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., March 5, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith communicate for your information a copy of an act of the legislature of South Carolina offering a guaranty by that State of the bonds of the Confederate States; to which I invite your special attention.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The Chair presented a bill of the Senate (60) to be entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of a register and an additional clerk and a draftsman for the Navy Department;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also presented a joint resolution of the Senate (7) tendering the thanks of Congress to Capt. Raphael Semmes, of the Confederate steam sloop Alabama, and the officers and crew under his command for their good conduct in sinking the United States sloop Hatteras on the 13th [11th] of January, 1863; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also presented a communication from the Postmaster-General in relation to mail pay on railroads; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foster moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution to change the hour of the meeting of the House.

Upon which Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 38
Nays ----- 33

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Hodge, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Chambers, Chilton, Currin, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Ken-

ner, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Foster moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock a. m. on to-morrow.

The motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session and,

On motion of Mr. Vest,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Curry moved that the Doorkeeper be allowed to keep in the Hall, during the secret sessions of the House, the pages of the House, including the page of the Speaker.

Upon which Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas 40
 } Nays 40

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Holcombe, Jones, McDowell, McRae, Miles, Moore, Mummerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarrette, Farrow, Garnett, Gartrell, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, Menees, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Foote moved that the doors be opened during the discussion of the pending question, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

The demand was not sustained, and the motion was lost.

And the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. McDowell,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-FIFTH DAY—SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Garnett moved that when this House adjourns to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock a. m. on Monday.

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays;
Which are recorded,

And are as follows, to wit: } Yeas 42
 } Nays 19

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution to change the hour of the daily meeting of the House.

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays;
Which are recorded,

And are as follows, to wit: } Yeas 44
 } Nays 23

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Batson, Chambers, De Jarnette, Ewing, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Simpson, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session and,

On motion of Mr. Breckinridge,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them, but had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-SIXTH DAY—MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Jeter.

On motion, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Wright of Georgia, on account of sickness.

Mr. Boteler moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to report a bill from the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores for the purpose of having the same printed.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 55
 } Nays 11 [12]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Dupré, Freeman, Garnett, Hilton, Jones, McQueen, Royston, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

So the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Boteler, from the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, reported

A bill to establish a niter bureau; which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Garnett moved that the rules be further suspended to enable him to offer a resolution changing the hour of meeting of the House, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 38 [39]
 } Nays 31

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Lander, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Currin, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Villeré, and Wilcox.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative,

The House refused to suspend the rules.

Mr. Garnett moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Kenan of Georgia, on account of urgent business.

On motion of Mr. Clark, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Lewis for the same reason.

Mr. Gray, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to and amendatory of the several acts for the sequestration of estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States;"

which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

Mr. Foote, by consent, from the joint committee appointed to investigate the Navy Department, moved that the accumulated testimony taken before said committee be printed; which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce sundry papers for reference, and to print the same.

The motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed unanimously a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 8. Joint resolution relating to the production of provisions; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair presented joint resolution of the Senate relating to the production of provisions; which was read the first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Hilton, the rule requiring the reference of the joint resolution to a committee was suspended.

Mr. Atkins moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost, and the resolution was taken up and read as follows, viz:

Whereas a strong impression prevails throughout the country that the war now being waged against the people of the Confederate States may terminate during the present year; and

Whereas this impression is leading many patriotic citizens to engage largely in the production of cotton and tobacco, which they would not otherwise do; and

Whereas, in the opinion of Congress, it is of the utmost importance, not only with a view to the proper subsistence of our armies, but for the interest and welfare of all the people, that the agricultural labor of the country should be employed chiefly in the production of a supply of food for every contingency: Therefore,

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That it is the deliberate judgment of Congress that the people of these States, while hoping for peace, should look to prolonged war as the only condition proffered by the enemy short of subjugation; that every preparation necessary to encounter such a war should be persisted in, and that the amplest supply of provisions for armies and people should be the first object of all agriculturists; wherefore, it is earnestly recommended that the people, instead of planting cotton and tobacco, should direct their agricultural labor mainly to the production of such crops as will insure a sufficiency of food for all classes and for every emergency, thereby, with true patriotism, subordinating the hope of gain to the certain good of the country.

That the President is hereby requested to issue a proclamation to the people of these States, urging upon them the necessity of guarding against the great perils of a short crop of provisions and setting forth such reasons therefor as his judgment may direct.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the same as follows, to wit: Add at the end thereof the words

And that the President be also requested, in such proclamation, to give to the producers of food the assurance that if at any time it shall become necessary to impress provisions or forage for public uses, full and just compensation will be made to the owner, according to the fair market value at the time and place of seizure.

Pending the consideration of which,

On motion by Mr. Royston,
 The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;
 When,
 On motion of Mr. Miles,
 The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,
 Mr. Swan moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution.

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays;
 Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 31
 } Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Barksdale, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curran, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion did not prevail, and

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States, Mr. Chilton in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 61. An act to authorize the President to contract for the construction and equipment of vessels for the Navy abroad;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair presented Senate bill (61) to authorize the President to contract for the construction and equipment of vessels for the Navy abroad; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

And on motion of Mr. Hilton,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-SEVENTH DAY—TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Jeter.
 Mr. Ralls moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Villeré demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 33
 } Nays ----- 27

Yeas: Batson, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Trippe.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Chilton, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion was agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was

A joint resolution of the Senate relating to the production of provisions.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Baldwin,

Mr. Hilton demanded the previous question.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 43
 } Nays ----- 35

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Barksdale, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Garland, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Moore, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the previous question was ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Baldwin was agreed to, and the joint resolutions of the Senate as amended was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Barksdale moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer resolutions in relation to foreign affairs; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Barksdale offered joint resolutions on the subject of the war, and in regard to the free navigation of the Mississippi River; which were read the first and second times, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Jones moved that the rules be further suspended to enable any member having resolutions upon the same subject to offer the same for reference, without debate; which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered

A joint resolution in relation to the termination of the present war; which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Miles, by consent, presented sundry papers in relation to the case of General Tochman; which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Harris moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When,

On motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States, Mr. Chilton in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the amendments numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 20, 23, 24 of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 11) to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

The Chair presented the amendments of the Senate to a bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes; which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

And on motion of Mr. Foster,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-EIGHTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Jeter.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., March 10, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, in further response to your resolution of the 5th ultimo, in regard to the number and amount of claims for vessels seized for public use.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., March 10, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, submitting an estimate of the amount required for the fulfillment of contracts made by the medical purveyors.

I recommend that an appropriation be made of the amount for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boyce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Currin, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Garnett, Hodge, Marshall, Perkins, Preston, Tibbs, and Trippe.

Nays: Batson, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Swan, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the same section by adding thereto the following words, viz:

No officer shall be appointed or promoted under authority of this law until his qualifications have been tested by examination under rules to be prescribed by the War Department.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce certain joint resolutions for reference without debate to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad introduced joint resolutions relating to a restoration of peace; which were read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When, on motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House, in secret session, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on the bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through the Chairman, reported that they had had the same under consideration and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Chilton moved to suspend the rules.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in laying direct taxes we are bound to observe that clause of the Constitution which declares that "No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken."

Resolved, That the census of eighteen hundred and sixty is a sufficient basis of apportionment within the meaning of the Constitution.

Resolved, That taxes on land and buildings are direct taxes.

Resolved, That taxes on slaves are direct taxes.

Resolved, That taxes on real or personal property generally and on income generally are direct taxes.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the resolutions by striking out all after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

That, in the opinion of this House, the first section of the bill for raising taxes is constitutional.

Mr. Garland moved to lay the resolutions and the amendment on the table.

On which Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 21
Nays 53

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chrisman, Clark, Conrow, Davidson, Elliott, Garland, Goode, Harris, Herbert, Hodge, Lyon, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Dupré called the question: which was ordered, and the question being on the amendment to the resolutions,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays; .

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 36
Nays 35

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bridgers, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Garland, Goode, Graham, Harris, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Moore, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Holcombe, Marshall, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Sexton, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the question.

Mr. Bridgers moved that the House go into open session.

The motion was lost.

The question was then ordered on agreeing to the resolutions as amended.

Mr. Chambers asked for the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

The House went into open session.

FORTY-NINTH DAY—THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Jeter.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., March 11, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering several reports of engagements with the enemy.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., March 11, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 3d ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a copy of my correspondence, together with that of the Secretaries of War and of the Navy, with the governor of Louisiana, and with Major-General Lovell, during the period beginning October 25, 1861, and ending with the date of the capture of the city of New Orleans, in reference to the defenses of that city.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which, with its accompanying documents, was, without being read, laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Barksdale moved that 1,000 extra copies of the same be printed for the use of the members.

The motion was referred to the Committee on Printing, under the rules.

Mr. Boyce moved that when the House adjourn to-day it take a recess until half past 7 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	33
Nays	41

Yeas: Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hilton, Holcombe, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Foster moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the motion by striking out the word "eleven" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "half past six."

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 25
Nays----- 44

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Currin, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, McDowell, Moore, Perkins, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

The motion of Mr. Foster was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When, on motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, upon the reading of the Journal, Mr. Kenner moved to amend the same by striking out the following portion thereof:

Mr. Bridgers moved that the House go into open session.

The motion was lost.

The question was then ordered on agreeing to the resolutions as amended.

Mr. Chambers asked for the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

The House went into open session.

The motion to amend did not prevail.

Mr. Trippe moved to reconsider the vote by which the question was ordered.

Mr. Chambers rose to a point of order, to wit: That the House having ordered a vote by yeas and nays upon a question pending, it was out of order to move a reconsideration of a vote.

The Speaker sustained the point.

And the yeas and nays, as ordered by the House, were taken,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 38
Nays----- 45

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chrisman, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Harris, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Moore, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Ashe, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Marshall, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Russell moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Royston called the question.

The call was sustained:

When,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas	43
{ Nays	30

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Harris, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Menes, Moore, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Breckinridge, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dupré, Foster, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Marshall, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the resolutions as follows, to wit: Add at the end thereof

Provided, That said section be so limited that it shall cease to have effect when a census of the Confederacy shall be taken, or when three years shall have expired after the first meeting of this Congress, whichever shall first happen.

And on motion of Mr. Miles,

The House went into open session.

FIFTIETH DAY—FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Jeter.

Mr. Ralls moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Harris moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Bridgers, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Smith of North Carolina.

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

The House resolved itself into secret session: and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 48. An act to authorize the discharge of certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States.

They have also passed a bill entitled

H. R. 9. An act to authorize and regulate the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes,

With amendments; in which bill and amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have disagreed to the amendment of this House to joint resolution (S. 8) entitled "Joint resolution relating to the production of provisions."

On motion of Mr. Holcombe,

The House took up for consideration the bill to authorize and regulate the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes, returned from the Senate with an amendment.

Mr. Holcombe moved that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate.

And the question being on disagreeing to the amendment of the Senate; which is as follows, viz: Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert

That when any officer in the military service of the Confederate States, in command of troops, or charged with the duty of supplying an army, shall impress into the public service any property belonging to a citizen of any of the Confederate States, or to any peaceful resident of the same, such officer shall, before appropriating the same to the public use, cause a valuation and appraisement thereof, upon proof of value, to be made by three or more disinterested citizens, if it can be done without injurious delay, and if the appraisement shall seem just and fair, he shall indorse upon it his approval; if not, he shall indorse on it his reasons for refusing, and deliver the same, together with a receipt for the property impressed, to the owner, his agent or attorney, and as soon as practicable forward a copy of the receipt and appraisement and his indorsement thereon to the head of the department having charge of the species of property taken. Where an appraisement can not be conveniently made, he shall deliver a receipt to the owner, his agent or attorney, and forward a copy as above directed.

Sec. 2. That the persons selected to appraise property impressed as provided in the first section, shall in all cases, before acting, take and subscribe an oath that the appraisement they are called upon to make shall be just, and, as near as they can estimate the same, a fair value of the impressed property.

Sec. 3. Where property is impressed, and after temporary use or service it is returned to the owner, his agent or attorney, the value of such use or service shall be ascertained and acted upon as directed in the foregoing section.

Sec. 4. That upon the production of the receipt of the officer for property impressed and the valuation of the same, or for the use and service of such when returned to the owner, approved by said officer, it shall be the duty of the proper disbursing officer to pay the amount thereof to the owner of such property, his agent or attorney, as in the case of property duly purchased or hired, and the acceptance of pay from Government shall, in all cases, operate as a release of all claim or right of action against the officer taking the property or ordering it to be done. Where there has been no appraisement or valuation, or where such appraisement and valuation are not approved by the officer taking the property, the claim shall be referred to the proper accounting officer of the Government, to be settled according to the principles of equity and justice.

Sec. 5. That any officer in the military service of the Confederate States who shall wantonly or oppressively impress or take any property of a citizen of any of the Confederate States, or of a peaceful resident of the same, or who shall do so except when necessary to avert impending danger, or to prosecute successfully important military operations, shall be deemed a trespasser, and held liable for damages as such to any citizen or resident so deprived of his property, to be recovered in any court having jurisdiction in the premises, and shall further be tried by a court martial or military court, and on conviction shall be dismissed the service.

Sec. 6. That property necessary for the support of the owner and his family, and necessary to carry on his ordinary agricultural and manufacturing business until the

Sec. 7. That previous to the first day of October next, no slave laboring on a farm or plantation, exclusively devoted to the production of grain and provisions, shall be taken for the public use without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity,

Mr. Jones moved that the House reconsider the vote ordering the previous question.

Which were ordered,

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Breekinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrow, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gartrell, Hilton, Jones, Keman of North Carolina, McQueen, McKae, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

Mr. Holcombe moved that a committee of three be appointed to confer with a committee on the part of the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to authorize and regulate the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes; which was agreed to.

The Chair announced as the committee on the part of the House Messrs. Holcombe of Virginia, Chilton of Alabama, and Garland of Arkansas.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 81. An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Heiskell moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Machen to the resolutions of Mr. Garnett was agreed to.

Mr. Foote called the question.

The call was sustained, and

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

} Years	34
	} Days

Yeas: Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dupré, Garnett, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Marshall, McQueen, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Harris, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Mences, Miller, Moore, Read, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Dupré called for the previous question.

The call was sustained.

And the question being upon agreeing to the proviso of Mr. Russell to the resolution as amended,

Mr. Garnett demanded the yeas and nays thereon:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 47
Nays ----- 29

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Breekinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clifton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Miles, Miller, Moore, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Tibbs, and Welsh.

Nays: Atkins, Boyce, Chambers, Collier, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, Marshall, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the resolutions as amended,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 41
Nays ----- 41

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bridges, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Hodge, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Moore, Read, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Yays: Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Marshall, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the resolutions were lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution.

The motion was lost, and

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Machen, as amended, to Mr. Garnett's resolution, was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

Secret S. 39. An act to suspend for a limited period the several acts authorizing furloughs or leaves of absence to be granted;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to whom sundry amendments of the Senate to amendments of the House to a Senate bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes, were referred, reported:

The committee recommend that the House insist on the House amendments numbered 14, 17, and 18, and recede from 19, 21, and 22.

Mr. Atkins demanded the question.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Machen,

Went into open session.

FIFTY-FIRST DAY—SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *March 12, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, in further response to your resolution of the 5th ultimo, in reference to claims for vessels seized for public use.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *March 12, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 28th ultimo, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury relative to cotton purchased for the Government in the State of Louisiana.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled

“An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment;” which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled “An act to authorize the discharge of certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States;” which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock on Monday; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Munnerlyn, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Clark, on account of pressing business.

Mr. Harris moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution, and demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 47
Nays----- 7

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Villeré.

Nays: Curry, Dargan, Goode, Heiskell, Jones, McKee, and Pugh.

So the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Harris offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the payment, regulating the military status, and other relief of officers and men who have been irregularly organized and sworn into the military service of the Confederate States and performed actual service in the field;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. McQueen, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Chrisman, on account of sickness in his family.

Mr. Garland moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a bill; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Garland introduced

A bill to be entitled “An act to authorize the President to appoint a commissioner to examine and audit certain claims in the State of Arkansas, and fixing the rank, pay, and duties of such commissioner;” which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Barksdale moved that the rules be further suspended to enable any member to present memorials and have the same referred, without debate; which was agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale presented the memorial of F. C. Shepherd, of Morton, Miss., praying reimbursement for Confederate notes destroyed by fire; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Garnett presented the petition of John R. Bagby, of Virginia, praying compensation for a horse lost in the service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Collier presented the memorial of sundry millers and merchants of Petersburg, praying the protection of Congress against undue impressments by the military authorities; which was laid upon the table, without being read.

Mr. Trippe presented the memorial of G. Grice, of Georgia, praying compensation for services rendered in the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Gartrell presented the memorial of sundry warrant officers of the Confederate States Navy in relation to their rank; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, without being read.

Mr. Miles presented the memorial of the inspectors of the customs for the Charleston (S. C.) district, praying an increase of compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

Mr. Currin, by consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of Lieutenant Thomas T. Kirtland;"

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims, together with a memorial from Lieut. T. T. Kirtland, praying a reimbursement of moneys expended by him in enlistment of troops.

Mr. Clopton presented the memorial of H. H. Epping in relation to bounty paid to troops; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Chambliss presented a design for a flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. McDowell presented the memorial of D. G. McRae, praying an increase of compensation for carrying the mail; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session;

When, on motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate to suspend for a limited period the several acts authorizing furloughs or leaves of absence to be granted; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the last secret session; which was the consideration of the amendments of the Senate to amendments of the House to a Senate bill to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

Mr. Atkins withdrew his call for the question.

Mr. Perkins moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendments be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Royston called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendments of the Senate to amendment numbered 14 of the House, which was to strike out the words proposed to be inserted by the House and insert

rates of interest as follows: If funded within twelve months from the first day of the month of their issue, the bonds shall bear six per cent interest per annum; if funded after that period, they shall be fundable into bonds bearing four per cent interest per annum,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of the Senate to amendment numbered 17 of the House, which was to strike out the words proposed to be inserted by the House and to insert

payable at any time, not exceeding thirty years from the expiration of the said six months, and bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum. Treasury notes which by the operation of this act become fundable into bonds, bearing a yearly interest of four per cent, may be converted at the pleasure of the holder into call certificates bearing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum from their date until reconverted or paid, the said certificates being reconvertible at any time by the holder into notes fundable into four per cent bonds and payable and receivable as heretofore prescribed; but the said certificates may be redeemed by the Government after six months from the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of the Senate to amendment numbered 18 of the House,

The same was disagreed to.

And the question being upon receding from amendments numbered 19, 21, and 22 of the House,

The same were receded from, and

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the report of the Committee on Foreign Affairs on joint resolutions on the pending war and matters appertaining thereto was taken up and recommitted to that committee.

And on motion of Mr. McQueen,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY—MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Attorney-General, inclosing report upon certain claims filed in the Department of Justice, under act of the Provisional Congress, No. 264, approved August 30, 1861; which, with its accompanying documents, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Miles moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Military Affairs.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

The motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Bridgers, leave of absence to Mr. Lander was granted.

On motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Foster,

The House went into open session.

FIFTY-THIRD DAY—TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 57. An act relative to the bonds of quartermasters and commissaries of the Confederate States; and

S. 79. An act for the benefit of certain claimants for postal services;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act relative to the bonds of quartermasters and commissaries of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act for the benefit of certain claimants for postal services;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Royston moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Hanly demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 38
 } Nays ----- 13

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Davidson, Davis, Freeman, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Bell, Garland, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Jones, McRae, Read, Vest, Villeré, and Wilcox.

There being no quorum voting,

Mr. Davis demanded a call of the House.

A call of the House was ordered, and the following members answered to their names, viz:

Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Harris,

Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

A quorum being present, on motion of Mr. Conrad, all further proceedings under the call were dispensed with, and the demand for the yeas and nays being by consent withdrawn, the motion to meet at 11 o'clock to-morrow was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved that leave of absence be granted to Mr. Currin, on account of indisposition; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate insist upon their amendment to the bill of this House (H. R. 9) to authorize the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes, agree to the conference asked for by this House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Haynes, Mr. Wigfall, and Mr. Caperton managers at the same on their part.

Mr. Chilton moved that the Chair appoint an additional member to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to serve during the illness of Mr. Lander; which was agreed to.

Mr. Foote moved that when the House adjourn it take a recess until half past 7 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

} Yeas	31
} Nays	38

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Hilton, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Conrad, Curry, Davis, Farrow, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, Kenner, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Tibbs, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chair-

man, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Foote,

The House went into open session.

FIFTY-FOURTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

The Chair appointed Mr. Davidson as an additional member of the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to serve during the illness of Mr. Lander.

Mr. Curry moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

} Yeas-----	47
} Nays -----	14 [15]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Gardenhire, Goode, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miller, Moore, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Tibbs, Trippe, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Baldwin, Farrow, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hart-ridge, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, McQueen, Miles, Simpson, Vest, and Villeré.

So the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Curry offered the following resolution, viz: .

Resolved, That hereafter the regular hour of meeting for this House shall be eleven o'clock antemeridian;

which was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate: which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 13. An act to amend an act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled a bill of the Senate to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war; also

H. R. 13. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States."

And the same were signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Foster moved that the House take a recess until 7.30 o'clock p. m.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

Mr. Garnett moved that the Clerk of the House be allowed to have two additional clerks in the House during the secret sessions of the body.

The motion was agreed to, and

The House again went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Goode,

The House went into open session.

FIFTY-FIFTH DAY—THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Langdon.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 87) to regulate the supplies of clothing to enlisted men of the Navy during the war; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to regulate the supplies of clothing to enlisted men of the Navy during the war;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICMOND, VA., March 18, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

Herewith is transmitted a communication from the Postmaster-General, calling attention to the serious embarrassments in which the postal service is becoming involved under the operation of the act of 11th of October last, which rendered all postmasters, except those appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and all contractors for carrying the mails, their riders and drivers, between the ages of 18 and 45, liable to military duty. In the opinion of the Postmaster-General it will be impracticable to continue the postal service in large districts of our country without some modification of this legislation.

Under present military necessities I am very reluctant to increase the list of exemptions, and were this a case which did not involve a great public interest, would decline to communicate the recommendation to you. In view of the vital importance of maintaining mail communications throughout our country, and the small

number of persons who appear to be necessary to the continuance of the postal service, I present the communication of the Postmaster-General and commend it to your attention.

Should you concur with me in the propriety of allowing some exemptions for the purpose proposed, I would suggest that it be confined to contractors, to the exclusion of subcontractors, and that the number of drivers be limited so as not to exceed one for (say) every twenty-five miles of service in coaches, and that the whole number of exemptions shall not exceed (say) fifteen hundred.

With these, or similar restrictions, I am of opinion that the rule of subjecting all citizens alike to the performance of their duty in defense of the country might be relaxed in the present case, as being for the interest both of the people at large and their defenders in the field.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have receded from their amendment to the eighteenth amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 11) to provide for the further issue of Treasury notes, and for other purposes.

The Senate have passed a bill (S. 3) to organize the Supreme Court of the Confederate States;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Foote moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the communication from the President in relation to the exemption of certain post office officials was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; which was agreed to, and on motion of Mr. Sexton, the same was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Foote moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a bill.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Garnett moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained.

The motion was agreed to, and

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the Chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And on motion of Mr. Foote,

The House went into open session.

FIFTY-SIXTH DAY—FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to organize the Supreme Court of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Gardenhire, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Tibbs, on account of illness.

Mr. Wilcox moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

On the vote being taken, it appearing that no quorum was present,

Mr. McQueen moved a call of the House; which was ordered, and the following members answered to their names, viz:

Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Foster, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kemmer, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Chambliss moved that all further proceedings under the call be dispensed with.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	} Yeas ----- 42 [43]	} Nays ----- 16 [15]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Kemmer, Lyon, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Farrow, Gardenhire, Jones, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So all further proceedings under the call were dispensed with, and the motion to go into secret session was agreed to.

The House having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Machen, leave of absence was granted to Mr. E. M. Bruce, on account of sickness in his family.

On motion of Mr. Royston, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Batson.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Chilton in the chair, on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through

their Chairman, reported the bill back to the House, with the recommendation that it pass with sundry amendments.

And the bill having been read as follows, to wit:^a

Mr. Baldwin moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendments be postponed until Monday next.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution limiting debate.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Jones moved that all speeches upon the pending bill and amendments be limited to five minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the first amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the enacting clause the following words, to wit:

That a tax of ten per centum shall be levied and collected upon the value of all naval stores, cotton, tobacco, and other agricultural products not owned by the producers and,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the second amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the first section, the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

Mr. Goode demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were ordered.

Mr. Crockett asked leave to be excused from voting on the bill and amendments.

The House refused to grant the leave.

Mr. Harris asked leave to be excused from voting on the bill and amendments.

The House refused to grant the leave.

And the yeas and nays ordered by the House on agreeing to the second amendment of the committee were recorded,

And are as follows, to wit: { Yeas -----	23
{ Nays -----	53

Yeas: Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenner, McRae, Miles, Moore, Read, Simpson, Singleton, and Trippe.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Arrington moved to strike out the word "one," in the original bill, and to insert in lieu thereof the words "one-half."

Mr. Read moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Arrington by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the [words] "one and a half," and demanded the question.

^a The bill is not recorded in the Journal.

The Speaker ruled the call for the question out of order, it not being competent under the rule for a member making a speech or motion to demand the question.

From which decision Mr. Read appealed.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

The same was decided in the affirmative.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Read to the amendment of Mr. Arrington,

Mr. Strickland demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 39 [40]
 { Nays 35 [34]

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Trippe, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Boyce, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clopton, Collier, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the amendment as amended.

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 30
 { Nays 48

Yeas: Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, McRae, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Read, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boyce, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment as amended was lost.

And the question being on agreeing to the third amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "held," in the first section, the words

within the Confederate States, and the personal property, moneys, and credits of all citizens of the Confederate States held without the Confederate States: *Provided*, That this tax shall not be collected on such property held abroad as may have been seized or sequestered by the enemy,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the fourth amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "licensed," in the first section,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the fifth amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "business," in the first section, the words "taxed under this act,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the sixth amendment of the committee, which was to add at the end of the first section the following words, to wit:

Provided, That no tax shall be imposed by virtue of this section after a census of the Confederacy shall be taken, nor after the expiration of three years from the first meeting of the present Congress,

Mr. Chilton moved to lay the amendment on the table.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table did not prevail.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the amendment of the committee by adding thereto the following words, to wit:

Provided further, That if any of the taxes hereby imposed and collected shall be held to be derived from objects of taxation subject alone to direct taxation, a separate account thereof, showing in what State collected, shall be kept by the Secretary of the Treasury for future apportionment under the census when taken, according to the Constitution.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of the committee by inserting after the word "tax" the words "on real estate or slaves."

The amendment was lost.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the amendment of the committee,

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

} Yeas	35
} Nays	36

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Russell, Singleton, Trippe, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Collier, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Kemano of North Carolina, Lyon, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Mences, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment of the committee was lost.

Mr. Lyon moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of the committee was lost, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

[Which were ordered,]

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

} Yeas	40
} Nays	29

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crock-

ett, Curry, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Boyce, Chambers, Chilton, Collier, Davidson, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the amendment of the committee by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the words

Provided, That this section shall be inoperative after the eighteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-five.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the amendment of the committee by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Provided, That any direct tax which may be collected under this section shall be laid in proportion to the census or enumeration directed to be taken by section two of article one of the Constitution,

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 20
Nays----- 46

Yeas: Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Curry, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Marshall, McQueen, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, Swan, Trippe, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was lost.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the amendment of the committee,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 37
Nays----- 33

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Read, Russell, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Collier, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Smith of

North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment of the committee was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the seventh amendment of the committee, which was to add at the end of the last amendment the following words, to wit:

Upon all ginned cotton the growth of the present year, a tax of four cents per pound, if not more than one bale of five hundred pounds per hand is grown, and a tax of eight cents per pound for all cotton in excess of the above quantity. And a tax of five cents per pound on all unmanufactured tobacco of five hundred pounds per hand, the growth of the present year, and on all tobacco in excess of the above quantity, a tax of eight cents per pound,

Mr. Herbert moved to amend the same by striking out the word "four" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "two."

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 9
 } Nays ----- 60

Yeas: Arrington, Boyce, Farrow, Gray, Herbert, Perkins, Simpson, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

A bill for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Ralls moved to amend the amendment of the committee by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

On all seed cotton the growth of the present year, a tax of one cent per pound, and upon all tobacco in the leaf the growth of the present year, a tax of five cents per pound: *Provided*, That if more than fifteen hundred pounds of seed cotton per hand be grown, the tax shall be two cents per pound, and if more than five hundred pounds of tobacco be grown per hand, then the tax shall be ten cents per pound: *Provided further*, That one hundred pounds of seed cotton for each member of the family growing such cotton shall not be taxed.

Mr. Curry called for a division of the question; which was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the first part of the amendment of Mr. Ralls for the amendment of the committee,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the second part thereof,

Mr. Herbert demanded the yeas and nays;

Which are recorded,

And are as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 26
 } Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Barksdale, Bridgers, Conrad, Crockett, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Hartridge, Heiskell, Kenan

of North Carolina, Lyon, McLean, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the second part of the amendment was lost.

And the question being upon agreeing to the third part,

The same was agreed to.

And on motion of Mr. Swan,

The House went into open session.

FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY—SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the speaker of the house of delegates of the State of Virginia; which is as follows, viz:

HOUSE OF DELEGATES, *March 20, 1863.*

Hon. THOS. S. BOCKOCK,

Speaker of House of Representatives.

SIR: It affords me pleasure to transmit a copy of a resolution passed this day, tendering the use of the hall of the house of delegates to the House of Representatives of the Confederate States during the recess of the general assembly.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HUGH W. SHEFFEY,

Speaker House of Delegates.

which was read and, with its accompanying resolution, on motion of Mr. Garland, laid on the table.

And the Speaker was directed to return the thanks of this House to the speaker of the house of delegates for the tender of the use of their hall.

Mr. Miles moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained.

Mr. Jones moved that the House adjourn, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 5
Nays ----- 58

Yeas: Baldwin, Davis, Farrow, Garland, and Goode.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston,

Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the House refused to adjourn.

The motion to suspend the rules was agreed to, and

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to increase the strength and efficiency of heavy artillery for seacoast defense," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on the postponement and placing the same upon the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up.

Mr. Hilton demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill was read a third time.

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the last secret session; which was the consideration of a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States; which had been reported back by the Committee of the Whole with sundry amendments.

Mr. Pugh moved to amend the first section of the bill by adding at the end thereof the following, to wit:

Provided, This act shall not apply to real and personal property owned by any person in the military service in the field, or persons in the active naval service of the Confederate States,

And upon which he demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 17
 } Nays ----- 57

Yeas: Arrington, Chambers, Collier, Foster, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Harris, Herbert, McLean, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Strickland, Swan, Vest, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Smith of Virginia, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Foster moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment offered by Mr. Ralls to the amendment of the committee was adopted.

That the sum of twenty-eight millions of dollars be levied annually, by direct taxation, and apportioned among the several States according to the enumeration for representation to which each State is entitled by law; which shall be annually assessed, by officers to be appointed in the several States, upon the value of the real and personal property in each State, including lands and improvements, slaves, horses and mules, cattle and sheep, pianos and other musical instruments, gold and silver ware or plate, gold watches, cotton and tobacco on hand of the crop of any preceding year, and all other goods and chattels not employed in trades, occupations, and professions herein-

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Ashe by striking out the word "five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "ten."

So the amendment was lost.

Upon any estate which shall pass by will or the laws regulating descents, distributions, or successions to any other person, or to the use or benefit of any other person than the husband or wife or lineal descendant of the decedent, shall be levied a tax of five per cent.

The amendment was lost.

And the question being upon agreeing, to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out from the bill the following, to wit:^a

And to insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:^a

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the following words, to wit:

That on and after the first day of _____, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, for each license granted, the sum herewith stated shall be respectively and annually paid. Any number of persons carrying on such business in copartnership may transact such business, at such place, and under such license, and not otherwise,

and to insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That upon each trade, business, or occupation hereinafter named, the following tax shall be levied and paid for each year ending on thirty-first of December, viz:

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "three," in the ninth section. and to insert in lieu thereof the word "five,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the ninth section, the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Curry demanded the previous question.

Upon which Mr. Hartridge demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 55
Nays 24

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Harris, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Tibbs, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Chambers, Clapp, Conrad, Farrow, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Marshall, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Trippe.

So the demand for the previous question was sustained.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the ninth section, the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "twenty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the ninth section, the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

^a The amendment is not recorded in the Journal.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the ninth section, the words "for each license twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the ninth section, the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas	35
	{ Nays	37

Yeas: Barksdale, Boteler, Chambers, Chilton, Conrad, Courrow, Crockett, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Harris, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Royston, Singleton, Strickland, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Machen, McDowell, Moore, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of Virginia, Tibbs, and Trippe.

So the amendment was lost.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, where they again occur, the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add at the end of section 9 the following words, to wit:

At public outcry the tax upon auctioneers shall be deemed a tax upon the personal privilege, to be paid by each individual engaged in the business without regard to the place at which the same is conducted. No tax shall be required upon auction sales made for dealers registered and taxed, and at their places of business, or upon official sales at auction made by judicial or executive officers, or by personal representatives, guardians, or committees,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the words "for each license one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, where it next occurs, the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "five,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, where they next occur, the words "during the year ending the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the words "for each license fifty" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "one hundred,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the word "one," where it next occurs, and to insert in lieu thereof the word "ten,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the following words, to wit:

during the year ending the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three; but if the liquors are drunk at the place of sale, they shall pay for each license one hundred dollars, and one per centum on gross amount of sales during the year ending thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in ninth section, the words "each license twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike the word "one," in the same section, where it next occurs, and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the same section where they next occur, the words "during the year ending thirty-first December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

[The same was agreed to.]

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the words "for each license one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to concur in the amendment of the Committee of the Whole to the clause in relation to auctioneers, by striking out therefrom the word "one" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half."

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of the committee,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the words "taken out a license" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "been registered,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, where they next occur, the words "for each license one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof "twenty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 9, the words "for each license one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in same section, the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "twenty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "thirty," in the same section, and to insert in lieu thereof the word "sixty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for a license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in the same section, the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "gallon on" the words "the first ten gallons and two dollars per gallon,"

Mr. Arrington demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which are recorded,

And are as follows, to wit: { Yeas	55
{ Nays	20

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McLean, Mc-

Queen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Collier, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Lyon, McDowell, Menees, Smith of North Carolina, and Swan.

So the amendment was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add, after the word "distilled," the words "beyond that quantity,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "fifty," in the same section, and to insert in lieu thereof the words "one hundred,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words, where they again occur, "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu of the same the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "profits" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "receipts,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "therefor" the words "the income of which amounts to five hundred dollars from that source,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license twenty" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "forty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "profits" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "receipts,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "ten" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "twenty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "profits" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "receipts,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "or" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "and,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "two,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "holding a license" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "registered,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "freight carried by vessels" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "goods,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert between the word "but" and the word "wholesale" the word "registered,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "having taken out a license therefor, shall not be required to take out a license as a tobacconist, anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding," and to insert in lieu thereof the words "shall not be taxed as tobacconists,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "Theaters shall pay three hundred dollars for each license" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "Theaters shall pay five hundred dollars, and five per cent on all receipts, which tax shall be paid by the owners of the building,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "circuses" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "each circus,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "one hundred dollars" the words "and a tax of ten dollars for each exhibition, which tax shall be paid by the manager thereof,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "license procured" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "registry made,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "license" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "registry,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "forty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment [of the committee], which was to strike out the words "belonging to or used in the building or place to be licensed" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "registered,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "registered" the words "which tax shall be paid by the owner thereof,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "five,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "profits" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "receipts,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "persons" the words "engaged in,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "peddling" the words "exclusively periodicals, books, newspapers, published in the Confederate States,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "and" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "or,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert at the end of the clause in relation to peddlers, in the ninth section, the following words, to wit:

The tax upon peddlers shall be deemed a tax upon the personal privilege, to be paid by each individual engaged in the business, and without regard to the place at which the same is conducted,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty."

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending December thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "Lawyers" the words "actually engaged in practice,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "two" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "five,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "dentists" the words "actually engaged in practice,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "except apothecaries,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add, in ninth section, after the word "patients," the words

The tax upon lawyers, physicians, surgeons, and dentists shall be deemed a tax upon the personal privilege, to be paid by each individual engaged in the business, and without regard to the place at which the same is conducted: *Provided*, That the provisions of this act shall not apply to physicians and surgeons exclusively engaged in the Confederate service,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "twenty-five" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for each license,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "act" the words "section ten,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "licensed" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "registered."

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "sales" the word "receipts,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "April" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "June,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "during the quarter then next preceding,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "March" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "May,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "April" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "June,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "duty" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "tax,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "duty or,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "of five hundred dollars" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "in double the amount of the tax,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "dollars," in the ninth section, the following words, to wit:

Provided, That when the net profits of any banker, auctioneer, wholesale or retail dealer in liquors, wholesale or retail dealer in groceries, goods, wares, and merchandise, pawnbroker, distiller, brewer, hotel, inn or tavern keeper, keeper of any eating house, broker, commercial broker, theater, circus, tobacconist, cattle broker, butcher, baker, peddler, apothecary, photographer, lawyer, physician, surgeon, dentist, confectioner, after paying the tax as aforesaid, shall exceed five thousand dollars and fall below twenty thousand dollars, there shall be collected twelve and one-half per cent on such excess of net profits, and on all excess of net profits over twenty thousand dollars there shall be collected twenty-five per cent on such excess,

Mr. Dargan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 45
 { Nays 21 [22]

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Jones, Kenner, Lyon, McDowell, McQueen, Smith of North Carolina, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Boyce moved that the House go into open session.

The motion was lost.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "whatever" the words "except on the salary of persons in the military or naval service,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "levied and collected" the words "at the end of each year,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "salary" the word "when,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add after the word "act," in section 10, the words

Provided, That no tax shall be imposed by virtue of this section on the salary of any person receiving a salary not exceeding one thousand dollars per annum, or at a like rate for another period of time, longer or shorter,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out section 11 of the bill,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to fill the blank in section 12 with the word "January,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to fill the next blank in the same section with the word "three,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "duty" and to insert the word "tax,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "duty," where it next occurs, and to insert in lieu thereof the word "tax,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "bridge" the words "or ferry of any kind,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "bridges" the words "or ferries,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to fill the next blank in the section with the word "January,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "fire, marine, life, inland, stock, and mutual insurance companies and,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "telegraph" the words "express, canal,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "companies" the words "associations, partnerships, or individuals,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "specially incorporated or existing therein under general laws, or which may hereafter be incorporated or exist as aforesaid,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "on all" the words "profits realized or,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words

or paid to stockholders, to policy holders, to depositors, as part of the profits, earnings, or gains of said banks, trust companies, saving institutions, insurance, and other companies,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "duty," where it next occurs, and to insert in lieu thereof the word "tax,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "fourteen" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "twenty-eight,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to fill the next blank in the section with the word "January,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "eighteen hundred and sixty-three" the words "annually thereafter,"

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Texas moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

Upon which Mr. Perkins demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 42 [41]
 } Nays ----- 32

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Conrad, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Heiskell, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McLean, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, and Tibbs.

So the motion prevailed, and
The House resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-EIGHTH DAY—MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Bishop Early.

On motion of Mr. Royston,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Sexton, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Graham, on account of domestic affliction.

Mr. Holecombe, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to authorize and regulate the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes, reported as follows, viz:

That they have met the conferees on the part of the Senate, and, after a full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses:

That the amendment herewith reported by said committee be adopted as a substitute for the bill and amendment referred to them as aforesaid, and that the House do agree to the amendment of the Senate with an amendment.

LANDON C. HAYNES,
LOUIS T. WIGFALL,
A. T. CAPERTON,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

JAMES P. HOLCOMBE,
W. P. CHILTON,
A. H. GARLAND,

Managers on the part of the House.

The amendment reported by the committee having been read as follows, viz:

Strike out all after the word "That," in the second line of the first section, and insert "whenever the exigencies of any army in the field are such as to make impressments of forage, articles of subsistence, or other property absolutely necessary, then

such impressment may be made by the officer or officers whose duties it is to furnish such forage, articles of subsistence, or other property for such army. In cases where the owner of such property and the impressing officer can not agree upon the value thereof, it shall be the duty of such impressing officer, upon an affidavit in writing of the owner of such property or his agent, that such property was grown, raised, or produced by said owner, or is held or has been purchased by him not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption, to cause the same to be ascertained or determined by the judgment of two loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county, or parish in which such impressment may be made, one to be selected by the owner, one by the impressing officer, and, in the event of their disagreement, these two shall choose an umpire of like qualification, whose decision shall be final. The persons thus selected, after taking an oath to appraise the property impressed fairly and impartially (which oath, as well as the affidavit provided for in this section, the impressing officer is hereby authorized to administer and certify), shall proceed to assess just compensation for the property so impressed, whether the absolute ownership or the temporary use thereof only is required.

"Sec. 2. That the officer or person impressing property as aforesaid shall, at the time of said taking, pay to the owner, his agent, or attorney the compensation fixed by said appraisers, and shall also give to the owner or person controlling said property a certificate, over his official signature, specifying the battalion, regiment, brigade, division, or corps to which he belongs, that said property is essential for the use of the Army, could not be otherwise procured, and was taken through absolute necessity; setting forth the time and place when and where taken, the amount of compensation fixed by said appraisers, and the sum, if any, paid for the same. Said certificate shall be evidence for the owner, as well of the taking of said property for the public use, as the right of the owner to the amount of compensation fixed, as aforesaid. And in case said officer or person taking said property shall have failed to pay the owner or his agent said compensation as hereinbefore required, then said owner shall be entitled to the speedy payment of the same by the proper disbursing officer, which, when so paid, shall be in full satisfaction of all claim against the Government of the Confederate States.

"Sec. 3. Whenever the appraisement provided for in the first section of this act shall, for any reason, be impracticable at the time of said impressment, then, and in that case, the value of the property impressed shall be assessed as soon as possible by two loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county, or parish wherein the property was taken, chosen as follows: One by the owner and one by the Commissary or Quartermaster General, or his agent, who, in case of disagreement, shall choose a third citizen of like qualification as an umpire to decide the matters in dispute, who shall be sworn as aforesaid, who shall hear the proofs adduced by the parties as to the value of said property, and assess a just compensation therefor, according to the testimony.

"Sec. 4. That whenever the Secretary of War shall be of opinion that it is necessary to take private property for public use, by reason of the impracticability of procuring the same by purchase, so as to accumulate necessary supplies for the Army, or the good of the service, in any locality, he may, by general order, through the proper subordinate officers, authorize such property to be taken for the public use, the compensation due the owner for the same to be determined and the value found as provided for in the first and second sections of this act.

"Sec. 5. That it shall be the duty of the President, as early as practicable after the passage of this act, to appoint a commissioner in each State where property shall be taken for the public use, and request the governor of such of the States in which the President shall appoint said commissioner to appoint another commissioner to act in conjunction with the commissioner appointed by the President, who shall receive the compensation of eight dollars per day and ten cents per mile as mileage, to be paid by the Confederate Government. Said commissioners shall constitute a board, whose duty it shall be to fix upon the prices to be paid by the Government for all property impressed or taken for the public use, as aforesaid, so as to afford just compensation to the owners thereof. Said commissioners shall agree upon and publish a schedule of prices every two months, or oftener, if they shall deem it proper; and in the event they shall not be able to agree in any matter confided to them in this act, they shall have power to appoint an umpire to decide the matter in dispute, whose decision shall be the decision of the board; and said umpire shall receive the same rate of compensation for the time he shall serve, allowed to said commissioners, respectively: *Provided*, That said commissioners shall be residents of the State for which they shall be appointed, and if the governor of any State shall refuse or neglect to appoint said commissioner within ten days after a request to do

so by the President, the President shall appoint both commissioners, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

"SEC. 6. That all property impressed or taken for the public use, as aforesaid, in the hands of any person other than the persons who have raised, grown, or produced the same, or persons holding the same for their own use or consumption, and who shall make the affidavit hereinbefore required, shall be paid for according to the schedule of prices fixed by the commissioners as aforesaid. But if the officer impressing or taking for the public use said property and the owner shall differ as to the quality of the article or property impressed or taken as aforesaid, thereby making it fall within a higher or lower price named in the schedule, then the owner or agent and the officer impressing or taking, as aforesaid, may select each a loyal and disinterested citizen, of the qualifications, as aforesaid, to determine the quality of said article or property, who shall, in case of disagreement, appoint an umpire of like qualifications, and his decision, if approved by the officer impressing, shall be final. But if not approved, the impressing officer shall send the award to the commissioners of the State where the property is impressed, with his reasons for disapproving the same, and said commissioners may hear such proofs as the parties may, respectively, adduce, and their decision shall be final: *Provided*, That the owner may receive the price offered by the impressing officer, without prejudice to his claim to receive the higher compensation.

"SEC. 7. That the property necessary for the support of the owner and his family, and to carry on his ordinary agricultural and mechanical business, to be ascertained by the appraisers to be appointed as provided in the first section of this act under oath, shall not be taken or impressed for the public use; and when the impressing officer and the owner can not agree as to the quantity of property necessary as aforesaid, then the decisions of the said appraisers shall be binding on the officer and all other persons.

"SEC. 8. Where property has been impressed for temporary use, and is lost or destroyed, without the default of the owner, the Government of the Confederate States shall pay a just compensation therefor, to be ascertained by appraisers appointed and qualified as provided in the third section of this act. If such property when returned has, in the opinion of the owner, been injured whilst in the public use, the amount of damage thereby sustained shall be determined in the manner described in the third section of this act, the officer returning the property being authorized to act on behalf of the Government; and upon such inquiry, the certificate of the value of the property when originally impressed shall be received as prima facie evidence of the value thereof.

"SEC. 9. Where slaves are impressed by the Confederate Government to labor on fortifications or other public works, the impressment shall be made by said Government according to the rules and regulations prescribed in the laws of the State wherein they are impressed; and, in the absence of such law, in accordance with such rules and regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, as the Secretary of War shall, from time to time, prescribe: *Provided*, That no impressment of slaves shall be made when they can be hired or procured by the consent of the owner or agent.

"SEC. 10. That previous to the first day of December next, no slave laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain and provisions shall be taken for the public use, without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity.

"SEC. 11. That any commissioned or noncommissioned officer or private who shall violate the provisions of this act shall be tried before the military court of the corps to which he is attached, on complaint made by the owner or other person, and, on conviction, if an officer, he shall be cashiered and put into the ranks as a private, and if a noncommissioned officer or private, he shall suffer such punishment, not inconsistent with military law, as the court may direct."

And that the title of the bill be amended so as to read: "An act to regulate impressments."

Mr. Holcombe moved that the House agree to the report of the committee of conference.

Mr. Goode demanded the question: which was ordered, and the report of the committee was agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to be entitled "An act for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties."

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That for the purpose of superintending the collection of internal duties, stamp duties, licenses, or taxes imposed, or which may be hereafter imposed by law, and of assessing the same, an office is hereby created in the Treasury Department to be called the Office of the Commissioner of Taxes; and the President of the Confederate States is hereby authorized to nominate and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint a commissioner of taxes, with an annual salary of dollars, who shall be charged, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, with preparing all the instructions, regulations, directions, forms, blanks, stamps, and licenses, and distributing the same, or any part thereof, and with all other matters pertaining to the assessment and collection of the duties, licenses, and taxes which may be necessary to carry the laws passed for this purpose into effect, and with the general superintendence of his office, as aforesaid, and the Secretary of the Treasury may assign to the office of commissioner of taxes such number of clerks as he may deem necessary, or the exigencies of the public service may require.

Sec. 2. That for the purpose of assessing, levying, and collecting all taxes and internal duties, each State shall constitute a tax division, over which shall be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, one State collector, who shall be a resident and freeholder in such State, with a salary of dollars, and shall, under the regulations prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, be charged with the duties imposed upon himself and with the superintendence and direction of all the duties of the various officers in his division or State, created by this act. The said State collector shall give bond with sureties to discharge the duties of his office in such amount as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and shall take oath faithfully to discharge the duties of his office, and to support and defend the Constitution of the Confederate States.

Sec. 3. Each State collector shall divide his State into convenient collection districts, following, as nearly as may be practicable, the counties of tax districts into which the State may have been subdivided by its own State government. But the Secretary of the Treasury may authorize two or more sparsely populated counties to be included in one collection district when so recommended by the State collector, and may subdivide large towns or cities into two or more collection districts when so recommended by said State collector. For each of these districts a tax collector, to be called the district collector, shall be appointed by the State collector, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, and each of these district collectors shall be charged with the duty of causing to be assessed and levied and of collecting all taxes, duties, and licenses imposed or required to be paid by any act of Congress, upon any persons or property within the said district. The said district collector shall be a resident freeholder of the tax district in which he shall be appointed, and shall be subject to such regulations as shall be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Sec. 4. That before any such collector shall enter upon the duties of his office he shall execute a bond for such amount as shall be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, with sureties, to be approved as sufficient by the commissioner of taxes, conditioned that said collector shall faithfully perform the duties of his office; which bond shall be filed in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury. And each collector shall, from time to time, renew, strengthen, and increase his official bond as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct. And each collector, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall take oath faithfully to discharge the duties of his office, and that he will support and defend the Constitution of the Confederate States.

Sec. 5. That each district collector shall be authorized to appoint, by an instrument of writing under his hand, as many deputies as he may think proper, to be by him compensated for their services, and also to revoke any such appointment, giving such notice thereof as the commissioner of taxes shall prescribe; and may require bonds or other securities and accept the same from such deputy; and each such deputy shall have the like authority, in every respect, to collect the duties and taxes levied and assessed within the portion of the district assigned to him which is by this act vested in the district collector himself; but each district collector shall, in every respect, be responsible both to the Confederate States and to individuals, as the case may be, for all moneys collected and for every act done as deputy collector by any of his deputies whilst acting as such, and for every omission of duty: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent any district collector from collecting himself the whole or any part of the duties and taxes so assessed and payable in his district.

The said district collectors shall appoint in their respective districts an assessor or assessors, who shall be resident therein, and each assessor so appointed and accepting the appointment shall, before he enters on the duties of his appointment, take and subscribe before some competent magistrate or some district collector to be appointed by virtue of this act (who is hereby empowered to administer the same) the following oath or affirmation, to wit: "I, A. B., do swear, or affirm (as the case may be), that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Confederate States of America, and will support the Constitution thereof, and that I will, to the best of my knowledge, skill, and judgment, diligently and faithfully execute the office and duties of assessor for (naming the district), without favor or partiality, and that I will do equal right and justice in every case in which I shall act as assessor." And a certificate of such oath or affirmation shall be delivered to the collector of the district for which such assessor shall be appointed. And every assessor acting in the said office without having taken the said oath or affirmation shall forfeit and pay one hundred dollars, one moiety thereof to the use of the Confederate States and the other moiety thereof to him who shall first sue for the same, with costs of suit.

SEC. 6. That it shall be the duty of any person or persons, partnerships, firms, associations, or corporations made liable to any duty, license, stamp, or tax imposed by any act imposing taxes or duties, when not otherwise and differently provided for, on or before the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and at such time and place as the collector shall appoint prior to the first Monday in May in each year thereafter, to make a list or return to the assessor of the district where located of the amount of annual income; the articles or objects charged with a special duty or tax; the quantity of goods, wares, and merchandise, made or sold, and charged with a specific or ad valorem duty or tax; the several rates and aggregate amount, and all other matters and things which are or shall be required by law, and according to the forms and regulations to be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, for which such person or persons, partnerships, firms, associations, or corporations are or shall be liable to be assessed according to law.

SEC. 7. That the instructions, regulations, and directions, as hereinbefore mentioned, shall be binding on each assessor and on each collector and his deputy or deputies in the performance of the duties enjoined by or under this act; pursuant to which instructions the district collector shall, on or before the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and at such time and place as the collector shall appoint, prior to the first Monday in May, in each succeeding year, and from time to time thereafter, in accordance with this act, direct and cause the several assessors to proceed through every part of their respective districts and inquire after and concerning all persons being within the collection districts where they respectively reside, owning, possessing, or having the care or management of any property, goods, wares, and merchandise, articles or objects liable to pay any duty, stamp, or tax, including all persons liable to pay a license or other duty or tax, under the provisions of any act of Congress (by reference as well to any lists of assessment or collection taken under the laws of the respective States, as to any other records or documents, and by all other lawful ways and means, especially to the written list, schedule, or return required to the assessor by all persons owning, possessing, or having the care or management of any property as aforesaid, liable to duty or taxation), and to value and enumerate the said objects of taxation, respectively, in the manner prescribed by this act and in conformity with the regulations and instructions before mentioned.

SEC. 8. That if any person owning, possessing, or having the care or management of property, goods, wares, and merchandise, articles or objects liable to pay any duty, tax, or license, shall fail to make and exhibit a written list when required, as aforesaid, and shall consent to disclose the particulars of any and all the property, goods, wares, and merchandise, articles and objects liable to pay any duty or tax, or any business or occupation liable to pay any tax, as aforesaid, then, and in that case, it shall be the duty of the officer to make such list, which, being distinctly read, consented to, and signed by the person so owning, possessing, or having the care and management as aforesaid, shall be received as the list of such person.

SEC. 9. That if any person shall deliver or disclose to any collector or assessor appointed in pursuance of this act, and requiring a list or lists, as aforesaid, any false or fraudulent list or statement, with intent to defeat or evade the valuation or enumeration hereby intended to be made, such person so offending, and being thereof convicted on indictment found therefor in any district court of the Confederate States, held in the district in which such offense may be committed, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, at the discretion of the court, and shall pay all costs and charges of prosecution; and the valuation and enumeration required by this act shall, in all such cases, and in all cases of undervaluation or understatement,

ment in such lists or statements, be made as aforesaid, upon lists according to the form prescribed, to be made out by the assessors, respectively; which lists the said assessors are hereby authorized and required to make according to the best information they can obtain, and for the purpose of making which they are hereby authorized to enter into and upon all and singular the premises, respectively; and from the valuation and enumeration so made there shall be no appeal.

Sec. 10. That if any person shall refuse or neglect to give such list or lists within the time required as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the collector or assessor for the collection district within which such person shall reside, and he is hereby authorized and required to enter into and upon the premises, if it be necessary, of such person so refusing or neglecting, and to make, according to the best information which he can obtain, or on his own view and information, such lists of property, goods, wares, and merchandise, and of all articles and objects liable to duty or taxation, owned or possessed or under the care or management of such person, as are required by law, including the amount, if any, due for taxes; and in case of refusal or neglect to make such lists, except in cases of sickness, the collector or assessor shall thereupon add fifty percent to the amount of the items thereof; and the lists so made and subscribed by such collector or assessor shall be taken and reputed as good and sufficient lists of the persons and property for which such person or property is to be taxed for the purposes of this act; and the person so failing or neglecting, unless in case of sickness or failure to receive the notice, shall, moreover, forfeit and pay the sum of one hundred dollars, except where otherwise provided for, to be recovered for the use of the Confederate States, with costs of suit.

Sec. 11. That whenever there shall be in any collection district any property, goods, wares, and merchandise, articles or objects not owned or possessed by or under the care or management of any person or persons within such district, and liable to be taxed as aforesaid, and no list of which shall have been transmitted to the assessor in the manner provided by this act, it shall be the duty of the assessor for such district, and he is hereby authorized and required to enter into and upon the premises where such property is situated, and take such view thereof as may be necessary, and to make lists of the same, according to the form prescribed, which lists, being subscribed by the said assessor, shall be taken and reputed as good and sufficient lists of such property, goods, wares, and merchandise, articles or objects as aforesaid, under and for the purposes of this act.

Sec. 12. That the owners, possessors, or persons having the care or management of property, goods, wares, and merchandise, articles or objects not lying or being within the collection district in which they reside, shall be permitted to make out and deliver the lists thereof required by this act (provided the district in which the said objects of duty or taxation are situated is therein distinctly stated), at the time and in the manner prescribed, to the assessor of the district wherein such persons reside. And it shall be the duty of the assessor who receives any such list to transmit the same to the assessor where such objects of taxation are situate, who shall examine such list, and if he approves the same he shall return it to the assessor from whom he received it, with his approval thereof; and if he fails to approve the same he shall make such alterations therein as he may deem to be just and proper, and shall then return the said list, with such alterations therein or additions thereto, to the assessor from whom he received the said list; and the assessor where the person liable to pay such tax resides shall proceed in making the assessment of the tax upon the list by him so received, in all respects as if the said list had been made out by himself.

Sec. 13. That the lists aforesaid, where not otherwise specially provided for, shall be taken with reference to the first day of January last preceding, and where taxes accrue at other and different times, the lists shall be taken with reference to the time when said taxes become due; and the district collectors, respectively, after collecting the said lists, shall proceed to arrange the same and to make two general lists, the first of which shall exhibit, in alphabetical order, the names of all persons liable to pay any duty, tax, or license residing within the collection district, together with the value and assessment or enumeration, as the case may require, of the objects liable to duty or taxation within such district for which each such person is liable, or for which any firm, company, or corporation is liable, with the amount of duty or tax payable thereon; and the second list shall exhibit, in alphabetical order, the names of all persons residing out of the collection district, owners of property within the district, together with the value and assessment or enumeration thereof, as the case may be, with the amount of duty or tax payable thereon, as aforesaid. The forms of the said general list shall be devised and prescribed by the State collector, under the direction of the commissioner of taxes, and lists taken according to such forms shall be made out by the assessor or assessors and delivered to the district collector within thirty

days after the day fixed by this act, as aforesaid, requiring lists from individuals; or where duties, licenses, or taxes accrue at other and different times, the lists shall be delivered from time to time as they become due. And if any assessor shall fail to perform any duty assigned by this act within the time prescribed by his precept, warrant, or other legal instructions, not being prevented therefrom by sickness or other unavoidable cause, every such assessor shall be discharged from office and shall, moreover, forfeit and pay the sum of two hundred dollars, to be recovered for the use of the Confederate States, with costs of suit: *Provided*, That the direction to exhibit the amount of tax shall not be construed to apply to property assessed with a view to a direct tax.

SEC. 14. The collectors for each collection district shall, by advertisement in some public newspaper published within his district, if any such there be, and by written or printed notifications, to be posted up in at least four places within each district, advertise all persons concerned of the time and place within said district when and where the lists, valuations, and enumerations made and taken within said district may be examined; and said lists shall remain open for the space of fifteen days after notice shall have been given as aforesaid. And said notifications shall also state when and where within said district, after the expiration of said fifteen days, appeals will be received and determined relative to any erroneous or excessive valuations or enumerations by the assessor. And it shall be the duty of each collector for each collection district, at the time fixed for hearing such appeal as aforesaid, to submit the lists taken and returned as aforesaid to the inspection of any and all persons who may apply for that purpose. And the said collector for each collection district is hereby authorized at any time within fifteen days from and after the time allowed for notification, as aforesaid, to hear and determine in a summary way, according to law and right, upon any and all appeals which may be exhibited: *Provided*, That the question to be determined by the collector on an appeal respecting the valuation or enumeration of property or objects liable to duty or taxation shall be, whether the valuation complained of be or be not in a just relation or proportion to other valuations in the same district, and whether the enumeration be or not correct. And all appeals to the district collector, as aforesaid, shall be made in writing and shall specify the particular cause, matter, or thing respecting which a decision is requested, and shall, moreover, state the ground or principle of inequality or error complained of. And the collector shall have power to reexamine and equalize the valuations as shall appear just and equitable; but no valuation or enumeration shall be increased without a previous notice of at least five days to the party interested to appear and object to the same if he judge proper; which notice shall be given by a note in writing, to be left at the dwelling house, office, or place of business of the party by such collector.

SEC. 15. The district collectors shall, immediately after the expiration of the time for hearing and deciding appeals, make out correct lists of the valuation and enumeration in each of their districts, respectively, and deliver the same to the State collector, and as soon as this delivery can be made, it shall be the duty of the State collector to convene from each Congressional district one district collector, to be designated by him, in general meeting, at such time and place as shall be appointed and directed by the commissioner of taxes, and the said State collector and district collectors shall constitute a board, over which the State collector shall preside, for the purpose of equalizing and adjusting the assessment of property throughout that State, and in case of a direct tax of apportioning the amount of direct taxes which such property or owners thereof are liable to pay, and the said board may make and establish such rules and regulations as to them shall appear necessary for carrying into effect the purposes of this act not being in conflict with the laws of the Confederate States.

SEC. 16. That said board of collectors, convened and organized as aforesaid, may appoint a suitable person or persons to be their clerk or clerks, but not more than one for each Congressional district, who shall hold their offices at the pleasure of said board of collectors, and whose duty it shall be to receive, record, and preserve all tax lists, returns, and other documents delivered and made to said board of collectors; and who shall take an oath (or affirmation, if conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath) faithfully to discharge his or their trust; and in default of taking such oath or affirmation, previous to entering on the duties of such appointment, or on failure to perform any part of the duties enjoined on him or them, respectively, by this act, he or they shall, respectively, forfeit and pay the sum of two hundred dollars for the use of the Confederate States, to be recovered in any court having competent jurisdiction, and shall also be removed from office.

SEC. 17. That it shall be the duty of said clerks to record the proceedings of the said board of collectors and to enter on the record the name of such of the collectors as shall attend any general meeting of the board of collectors for the purposes of this

act. And if any collector shall fail to attend such general meeting his absence shall be noted on said record, and he shall, for every day he may be absent therefrom, forfeit and pay the sum of ten dollars for the use of the Confederate States.

SEC. 18. That if the said board of collectors shall not, within three days after the first meeting thereof as aforesaid, be furnished with all the lists of valuation of the several collection districts in any State, they shall nevertheless proceed to make out the equalization and apportionment by this act directed, and they shall assign to such districts the valuation lists of which shall not have been furnished such valuation as they shall deem just and right; and the valuation thus made to such districts by the board of collectors shall be final, and the proper quota of direct tax shall be, and is hereby, declared to be imposed thereon accordingly.

SEC. 19. The State collector shall forthwith notify each district collector of the adjustment and equalization made by the board of collectors; and each district collector shall immediately conform thereto, and make out his lists of assessment accordingly. Each of said district collectors shall thereupon, within days after receiving said notice from the board of collectors, give notice, by advertisement published in each collection district, in one newspaper printed in said district, if any such there be, and by notifications to be posted up in at least four public places in each district, that the said duties, excises, and taxes have become due and payable, and state the time and place within said district at which he will attend to receive the same, which time shall not be less than days after such notification; and all persons who shall neglect to pay the duties and taxes as aforesaid assessed upon them, to the collector within the time specified, shall be liable to pay ten per centum additional upon the amount thereof, the fact of which liability shall be stated in the advertisement and notification aforesaid. And with regard to all persons who shall neglect to pay as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the collector, in person or by deputy, within twenty days after such neglect, to make a demand personally, or at the dwellings or usual places of business of such persons, if any they have, for payment of said taxes or duties, with the ten per centum additional aforesaid. And with respect to all such duties or taxes as are not included in the lists aforesaid, and all taxes and duties the collection of which is not otherwise provided for in this act, it shall be the duty of each collector, in person or by deputy, to demand payment thereof, in manner aforesaid, within ten days from and after the same becomes due by law; and if the annual and other duties shall not be paid within ten days from and after such demand therefor, it shall be lawful for such collector, or his deputy or deputies, to proceed to collect the said duties or taxes by distraint and sale of the goods, chattels, or effects of the persons delinquent as aforesaid. And in case of such distraint, it shall be the duty of the officer charged with the collection to make, or cause to be made, an account of the goods or chattels which may be distrained, a copy of which, signed by the officer making such distraint, shall be left with the owner or possessor of such goods, chattels, or effects, or at his or her dwelling, with some person of suitable age and discretion, with a note of the sum demanded and the time and place of sale; and the said officer shall forthwith cause a notification to be published in some newspaper within the district wherein the distraint is made, if there is a newspaper published in said district, or to be publicly posted up at the post-office, if there be one within five miles, nearest to the residence of the person whose property shall be distrained, and in not less than two other public places, which notice shall specify the articles distrained and the time and place for sale thereof, which time shall not be less than ten nor more than twenty days from the date of such notification, and the place proposed for sale not more than five miles distant from the place of making such distraint: *Provided*, That in case of distraint for the payment of the duties or taxes aforesaid, the goods, chattels, or effects so distrained shall and may be restored to the owner or possessor, if, prior to the sale, payment or tender shall be made to the proper officer charged with the collection of the full amount demanded, together with such fee for levying and such sum for the necessary and reasonable expense of removing, advertising, and keeping the goods, chattels, or effects so distrained, as may be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes; but in case of nonpayment or tender, as aforesaid, the said officer shall proceed to sell the said goods, chattels, or effects at public auction, and shall and may retain from the proceeds of such sale the amount demandable for the use of the Confederate States, with the necessary and reasonable expenses of distraint and sale, and a commission of five per centum thereon for his own use, rendering the overplus, if any there be, to the person whose goods, chattels, or effects shall have been distrained: *Provided*, That there shall be exempt from distraint the tools or implements of a trade or profession, one cow, arms and provisions, and household furniture kept for use, apparel necessary for a family, and beast of the plow.

SEC. 20. That in all cases where the property liable to distraint for duties or taxes under any act of Congress may not be divisible, so as to enable the collector by a

sale of part thereof to raise the whole amount of the tax, with all costs, charges, and commissions, the whole of such property shall be sold, and the surplus of the proceeds of the sale, after satisfying the duty or tax, costs, and charges, shall be paid to the owner of the property, or his, her, or their legal representatives, or if he, she, or they can not be found or refuse to receive the same, then such surplus shall be deposited in the Treasury of the Confederate States in such manner as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, to be there set apart and held for the use of the owner, or his, or her, or their legal representatives until he, she, or they shall make application therefor to the Secretary of the Treasury, who, upon such application, shall, by warrant on the Treasury, cause the same to be paid to the applicant. And if the property advertised for sale as aforesaid can not be sold for the amount of the duty or tax due thereon, with the costs and charges, the collector shall purchase the same in behalf of the Confederate States for an amount not exceeding the tax or duty, with the costs and charges thereon. And all property so purchased may be sold by said collector under such regulations as may be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes. And the collector shall render a distinct account of all charges incurred in the sale of such property, and shall pay into the Treasury the surplus, if any there be, after defraying the charges.

SEC. 21. The taxes assessed upon each person shall be a statutory lien upon all property of such person for and during the term of two years from the date of listing such person in preference to any other lien, and the lands and other property of any collector shall be bound by statutory lien for five years for all moneys received by him for taxes or duties, the date of such lien to commence from the time of his receiving the money. And the said liens shall extend to each and every part of all tracts, or lots of land, or dwelling houses, notwithstanding the same may have been divided or alienated in part.

SEC. 22. That in any case where goods, chattels, or effects sufficient to satisfy the duties imposed by law upon any person liable to pay the same shall not be found by the collector or deputy collector whose duty it may be to collect the same, he is hereby authorized to collect the same by seizure and sale of real estate of such person; and the officer making such seizure and sale shall give notice to the person whose estate is proposed to be sold, by giving him in hand, or leaving at his usual place of abode, a notice in writing, stating what particular estate is proposed to be sold, describing the same with reasonable certainty, and the time when and place where said officer proposes to sell the same. And the said collector shall first advertise the same for thirty days in a newspaper printed within the collection district, if such there be, or shall post up in at least four public places within the district a notification of the intended sale, thirty days previous thereto, and shall proceed to sell at public sale so much of the said property as may be necessary to satisfy the taxes due, together with an addition of twenty per centum. But in all cases where the property liable to tax under this act may not be divisible, so as to enable the collector by a sale of part thereof to raise the whole amount of the tax, with all costs, charges, and commissions, the whole of such property shall be sold, and the surplus of the proceeds of the sale, after satisfying the tax, costs, charges, and commissions, shall be paid to the owner of the property, or to his legal representatives, or if he or they can not be found, or refuse to receive the same, then such surplus shall be deposited in the Treasury, there to be held and drawn out in like manner as provided in this act in reference to the surplus arising from the sale of goods, chattels, and effects. And if the property advertised for sale as aforesaid can not be sold for the amount of the tax due thereon, with the said additional twenty per centum thereto, the collector shall purchase the same in behalf of the Confederate States for the amount aforesaid: *Provided*, That the owner or superintendent of the property aforesaid, after the same shall have been, as aforesaid, advertised for sale, and before it shall have been actually sold, shall be allowed to pay the amount of the tax thereon, with an addition of ten per centum on the same, on the payment of which the sale of the property shall not take place: *Provided also*, That the owners, their heirs, executors, or administrators, or any person on their behalf, shall have liberty to redeem the lands and other property sold, as aforesaid, within two years from the time of sale, upon payment to the collector for the use of the purchaser, his heirs or assigns, of the amount paid by said purchaser, with interest for the same, at the rate of twenty per centum; and no deed shall be given until the time of redemption shall have expired: *Provided further*, That when the owner of any land or other real property sold for taxes under the provisions of this act shall be in the military service of the Confederate States before and at the time said sale shall have been made, the said owner shall have the privilege of redeeming the said property at any time within two years after the close of his term of service. And the collector shall render a distinct account of the charges incurred in offering and advertising for sale such

property, and shall pay into the Treasury the surplus, if any there be, of the aforesaid addition of twenty per centum, or ten per centum, as the case may be, after defraying the charges. And in every case of the sale of real estate which shall be made under the authority of this act by the collectors, respectively, or their lawful deputies, respectively, the deeds for the estate so sold shall be prepared, made, and executed, and proved or acknowledged, at the time and times prescribed in this act by the collectors, respectively, within whose collection district such real estate shall be situated, in such form of law as shall be authorized and required by the laws of the Confederate States, or by the law of the State in which such real estate lies, for making, executing, proving, and acknowledging deeds of bargain and sale or other conveyances for the transfer and conveyance of real estate; and for every deed so prepared, made, executed, proved, and acknowledged, the purchaser or grantee shall pay to the collector the sum of five dollars, for the use of the collector or other person effecting the sale of the real estate thereby conveyed. It shall be the duty of every collector to keep a record of all sales of land made in his collection district, whether by himself or his deputy, in which shall be set forth the tax for which any such sale was made; the dates of seizure and sale; the name of the party assessed, and all proceedings in making said sale; the amount of fees and expenses; the name of the purchaser, and the date of sale; which record shall be certified by the officer making the sale. And it shall be the duty of any deputy making sale as aforesaid to return a statement of all his proceedings to the collector and to certify the record thereof. And in case of the death or removal of the collector or the expiration of his term of his office from any other cause, said record shall be deposited with his successor, if there be one appointed, and if not, then said record shall be deposited in the office of the State collector; and a copy of every such record, certified by the collector or the State collector, as the case may require, shall be evidence in any court of the truth of the facts therein stated. And when any lands sold as aforesaid shall be redeemed as hereinbefore provided, the collector or chief collector, as the case may be, shall make an entry of the fact upon the record aforesaid, and the said entry shall be evidence of such redemption. And the claim of the Government to lands sold under and by virtue of the foregoing provisions shall be held to have accrued at the time of seizure thereof.

SEC. 23. Upon receiving the tax due by each person, the collector shall sign receipts in duplicate, one whereof shall be delivered to the person paying the same, and the other shall be forwarded to the State collector of that State. The money collected during each month, or during any shorter period which may be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall be also immediately forwarded to the said State collector; and the several State collectors shall, at the expiration of every month after collections have been commenced, transmit to the commissioner of taxes a statement of the amount of collections received within the month, and pay over monthly, or at such time or times as may be required by the commissioner of taxes, the moneys by them, respectively, received within the said term, and at such places as may be designated and required by the commissioner of taxes; and each of the district collectors shall complete the collection of all sums annually assigned to them for collection, shall pay over the same to the State collector, and shall render his final account to the said State collector as often as he may be required, and within six months from and after the day when he shall have received the collection lists from the assessor or assessors of his district. And the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to designate one or more depositories in each State for the deposit and safe-keeping of the moneys collected by virtue of this act; and the receipt of the proper officer of such depository to a State collector for the money deposited by him shall be a sufficient voucher for such State collector in the settlement of his accounts at the Treasury Department; and the commissioner of taxes may, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, prescribe such regulations with reference to such deposits as he may deem necessary. And the State collector shall furnish the commissioner of taxes with a list specifying the names and amounts of each of the tax receipts which shall have been forwarded to him as aforesaid by the district collectors.

SEC. 24. That each collector shall be charged with the whole amount of taxes, whether contained in the lists delivered to him by the assessors, respectively, or delivered or transmitted to him by other collectors, and shall be credited with the amount of duties or taxes contained in the lists transmitted in the manner above provided to other collectors and by him receipted as aforesaid, and also for the duties or taxes of such persons as may have absconded or become insolvent prior to the day when the duty or tax ought, according to the provisions of this act, to have been collected: *Provided*, That it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Comptroller of the Treasury that due diligence was used by the collector, and that no property was left from which the duty or tax could have been recovered. And each collector shall

also be credited with the amount of property purchased by him for the use of the Confederate States, provided he shall faithfully account for and pay over the proceeds thereof upon a resale of the same as required by this act.

SEC. 25. That if any collector shall fail to collect or pay over to the chief collector the amounts collected as hereinbefore provided, it shall be the duty of the State collector, and he is hereby authorized and required, immediately after such delinquency, to report the same to the commissioner of taxes, who shall issue a warrant of distress against such delinquent collector and his sureties, directed to the marshal of the district, therein expressing the amount of the taxes with which the said collector is chargeable, and the sums, if any, which have been paid. And the said marshal shall, himself, or by his deputy, immediately proceed to levy and collect the sum which may remain due, by distress and sale of the goods and chattels, or any personal effects of the delinquent collector, giving at least five days' notice of the time and place of sale, in the manner provided by law for advertising sales of personal property on execution in the State wherein such collector resides: *And furthermore*, If such goods, chattels, and effects can not be found sufficient to satisfy the said warrant, the said marshal or his deputy shall and may proceed to levy and collect the sum which remains due, by distress and sale of the goods and chattels, or any personal effects of the surety or sureties of the delinquent collector, giving notice as hereinbefore provided. And the bill of sale of the officer, of any goods, chattels, or other personal property distrained and sold as aforesaid, shall be conclusive evidence of title to the purchaser, and prima facie evidence of the right of the officer to make such sale, and of the correctness of his proceedings in selling the same. And for want of goods and chattels or other personal effects of such collector or his sureties, sufficient to satisfy any warrant of distress, issued pursuant to the preceding section of this act, the lands and real estates of such collector and his sureties, or so much thereof as may be necessary for satisfying the said warrant, after being advertised for at least three weeks in not less than three public places in the collection district, and in one newspaper printed in the district, if any there be, prior to the proposed time of sale, may and shall be sold at public auction by the marshal or his deputy, who, upon such sale, shall, as such marshal, deputy marshal, make and deliver to the purchaser of the premises so sold a deed of conveyance thereof, to be executed and acknowledged in manner and form prescribed by the laws of the State in which said lands are situated, which said deed so made shall invest the purchaser with all the title and interest of the defendant or defendants named in said warrant, existing at the time of seizure thereof, and all moneys that remain of the proceeds of such sale after satisfying the said warrant of distress and paying the reasonable costs and charges of sale shall be returned to the proprietor of the lands or real estate sold as aforesaid.

SEC. 26. That each and every collector or his deputy who shall exercise or be guilty of any extortion or willful oppression under color of this act, or shall knowingly demand other or greater sums than shall be authorized by this act, shall be liable to pay a sum not exceeding double the amount of damages accruing to the party injured, to be recovered by and for the use of the party injured, with costs of suit, and shall be dismissed from office, and be disqualified from holding such office thereafter; and each and every collector or his deputy shall give receipts for all sums by them collected and retained in pursuance of this act.

SEC. 27. That the collector or deputy collector or assessor shall be authorized to enter, in the daytime, any brewery, distillery, manufactory, building, or place where any property, articles, or objects, subject to duty or taxation under the provisions of this act, are made, produced, or kept within his district, so far as it may be necessary for the purpose of examining said property, articles, or objects, or for inspecting any books in which are kept the entries of such items as are required to make the returns required from time to time to be made. And every owner of such brewery, distillery, manufactory, building, or place, or persons having the agency or superintendence of the same, who shall refuse to admit such officer, or to suffer him to examine said property, articles, or objects, or to inspect said accounts, shall, for every such refusal, forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars.

SEC. 28. That in case of the sickness or temporary disability of a collector to discharge such of his duties as can not under existing laws be discharged by a deputy, they may be devolved by him on his deputy: *Provided*, That information thereof be immediately communicated to the Secretary of the Treasury, and shall not be disapproved by him: *And provided further*, That the responsibility of the collector or his sureties to the Confederate States shall not be affected or impaired thereby.

SEC. 29. That in case a collector shall die, resign, or be removed, the deputy of such collector, if he have one, shall continue to act until the successor be appointed; and the deputy of such collector may and shall, until a successor shall be appointed,

discharge all the duties of said collector; and for the official acts and defaults of such deputy a remedy shall be had on the official bond of the collector, as in other cases; and any bond or security taken of such deputy by such collector pursuant to the provisions of this act shall be available to his heirs or representatives, to indemnify them for loss or damage accruing from any act of the proper deputy so continuing or so succeeding to the duties of such collector.

SEC. 30. That it shall be the duty of the collectors aforesaid or their deputies in their respective districts, and they are hereby authorized, to collect all the duties and taxes imposed by law, however the same may be designated, and to prosecute for the recovery of the same and for the recovery of any sum or sums which may be forfeited by virtue of this act; and all fines, penalties, and forfeitures which may be incurred or imposed by virtue of this act shall and may be sued for and recovered in the name of the Confederate States or of the collector within whose district any such fine, penalty, or forfeiture shall have been incurred, in any proper form or action or by any appropriate form of proceeding before any circuit or district court of the Confederate States for the district within which said fine, penalty, or forfeiture may have been incurred, or before any court of competent jurisdiction; and where not otherwise and differently provided for, one moiety thereof shall be to the use of the Confederate States and the other moiety thereof to the use of the person who, if a collector or deputy collector, shall first inform of the cause, matter, or thing whereby any such fine, penalty, or forfeiture was incurred.

SEC. 31. That if any person, in any case, matter, hearing, or other proceeding in which an oath or affirmation shall be required to be taken or administered under and by virtue of this act, shall, upon the taking of such oath or affirmation, knowingly and willingly swear or affirm falsely, every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and shall, on conviction thereof, be subject to the like punishment and penalties now provided by the laws of the Confederate States for the crime of perjury.

SEC. 32. That separate account shall be kept at the Treasury of all moneys received from each of the respective States, and the State collector shall procure from each tax collector such details as to the tax, and shall classify the same in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury shall direct and so as to provide full information as to each subject of taxation.

SEC. 33. That when any duty or tax shall have been paid by levy and distraint, any person or persons or party who may feel aggrieved thereby may apply to the district collector for relief and exhibit such evidence as he, she, or they may have of the wrong done or supposed to have been done, and after a full investigation, the collector shall report the case, with such parts of the evidence as he may judge material, including also such as may be regarded material by the party aggrieved, to the State collector, and the State collector shall report the same to the commissioner of taxes, who may, if it shall be made to appear to him that such duty or tax was levied or collected, in whole or in part, wrongfully or unjustly, certify the amount wrongfully and unjustly levied or collected, and the same shall be refunded and paid to the person or persons or party, as aforesaid, from any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, upon the presentation of such certificate to the proper officer thereof.

SEC. 34. That in all cases of distraint and sale of goods or chattels for nonpayment of taxes provided for in this act the bill of sale of such goods or chattels given by the officer making such sale to the purchaser thereof shall be conclusive evidence of the right of the officer to make such sale and of the correctness of his proceedings in selling the same.

SEC. 35. That when land or other real property has been redeemed by the owner, his heirs, executors, or administrators, in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this act, the collectors shall, on application, pay to the purchasers the moneys thus paid for their use; and in all cases where lands may be sold under this act for the payment of taxes, belonging to infants, persons of insane mind, and married women, such persons shall have the term of two years after their respective disabilities shall have been removed to redeem lands thus sold, on their payment to the collector of the district in which the land or other real property lies, for the use of the purchaser, the amount paid by such purchaser, with fifty per centum addition thereto, together with ten per centum interest per annum on the aggregate sum, and on their payment to the purchaser of the land aforesaid a compensation for all improvements he may have made on the premises subsequent to his purchase, the value of which improvements shall be ascertained by three or more neighboring freeholders, to be appointed by said collector, who, on an actual view of the premises, shall assess the value of such improvements, on their oaths, and make return of such valuation to the collector immediately. And the collector shall receive such com-

pensation for his services herein, to be paid by and received from the parties like costs of suit, as a court shall in that respect tax and allow.

SEC. 36. Each collector shall be charged with an interest of five per centum per month for all moneys retained in his possession beyond the time at which he is required to pay over the same by law or by regulations established by the Secretary of the Treasury, or the commissioner of taxes, under his direction.

SEC. 37. That the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, is authorized to establish all rules and regulations suitable and proper to carry this act into effect, which regulations shall be binding on all officers; he may, in like manner, frame instructions as to all details, which shall be obligatory upon all parties embraced within the provisions of this act, and may also correct all errors in assessments, valuations, and tax lists, or in the collection thereof, in such form and upon such evidence as may be prescribed. And in cases where the time fixed for the performance and completion of the various duties prescribed for the various tax officers named in this act shall, from unavoidable exigencies, be insufficient, the commissioner of taxes, by the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall have power to make extension thereof as circumstances and the public interests may require.

SEC. 38. That the compensation of district tax collectors shall be five per centum on the first twenty thousand dollars collected and paid over, and two and one-half per centum on all sums beyond that amount collected and paid over. And there shall be allowed and paid to the several assessors for their services under this act dollars for every day employed in making lists and assessments under this act, the number of days being certified by the district collector and approved by the State collector, and also five dollars for every hundred taxable persons contained in the list as completed by such assessor and delivered to the collector.

SEC. 39. The lien for the tax shall attach from the date of assessment, and shall follow the property into every State of this Confederacy; and in case any person shall attempt to remove any property which may be liable to tax beyond the jurisdiction of the State in which the tax is payable without payment of the tax, the collector of the district may distrain upon and sell the same in the same manner as is provided in cases where default is made in the payment of the tax.

SEC. 40. That a sufficient amount of money be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for the payment of such expenses as shall be actually incurred by the State collectors for salaries of clerks, office rent, postage, and other incidental charges, to be disbursed by the said State collectors upon estimates approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, and requisition drawn upon the disbursing clerk hereinafter provided for, to whom the State collectors shall be accountable for their disbursements, and who shall embrace their said accounts in his settlements with the auditor: *Provided*, That the books and printing required shall be at the expense of the Department.

SEC. 41. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall appoint a disbursing clerk for the office of commissioner of taxes, who shall give bond, with sureties, faithfully to discharge the duties of his office, in such amount as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and shall receive, in compensation therefor, the sum of dollars in addition to the regular salary allowed by law to clerks in the Treasury Department. And it shall be the duty of said disbursing clerk to examine and settle all accounts for salaries, commissions, and other expenses incidental to the assessment and collection of the duties and taxes provided for by law, and he shall render monthly or quarterly statements to the proper auditor, as shall be directed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and shall conduct the correspondence in relation thereto under the supervision and control of the commissioner of taxes.

SEC. 42. That the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe regulations to enable any taxpayer to pay into the Treasury in advance such sum as he may choose on account of taxes to accrue against him, and to obtain therefor a certificate bearing interest at the rate of five per cent a year until his taxes are payable, but such certificate shall not be transferable.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved that the bill be recommitted to the Committee on Ways and Means, with instructions to report

A bill for the assessment and collection of taxes imposed at the present or at any future session of Congress, containing as far as applicable the provisions of the act entitled "An act to authorize the issue of Treasury notes, and to provide a war tax for their redemption," approved August 19, 1861.

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the first section of the bill by striking out the word "licenses."

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment by striking out from the first section the words "internal duties, stamp duties, licenses, or."

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the second section by striking out thereof the words "and internal duties;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Kenner moved to amend the same section by filling the blank therein with the words "two thousand dollars."

Mr. Garnett moved to amend the amendment by filling the blank with the words "not less than two thousand dollars, nor more than four thousand dollars, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury."

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the amendment by filling the blank with the words "from two thousand dollars to three thousand dollars, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury."

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend the amendment by filling the blank with the words

one-tenth of one per cent on the amount collected in each State, provided that in no case shall the salary be less than two thousand dollars or more than three thousand dollars.

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. McDowell moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the motion of Mr. Smith of North Carolina to recommit the bill to the committee, with instructions, was rejected.

Mr. Garland demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, informing the House that on the 20th instant he approved and signed an act entitled

An act to amend an act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States.

Mr. Kenner moved to amend the first section by filling the blank therein with the words "three thousand dollars."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Kenner moved to amend the third section by striking out the word "licenses," and to strike out the same word wherever occurring in the bill.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the bill by striking out the words "duties and," wherever occurring.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the third section by striking out the word "freeholder."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Kenner moved to amend the fourth section by filling the blank therein with the words "not less than two."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the fifth section by striking out the words "bear true faith and allegiance to the Confederate States of America, and will support the Constitution thereof," and insert in lieu thereof the words "support the Constitution of the Confederate States of America."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the fifth section by striking out the words "both to the Confederate States and to individuals."

The amendment was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Clapp,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the last secret session: which was the consideration of the amendments of the Committee of the Whole to a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and to carry on the Government of the Confederate States.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "fourteen" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "twenty-eight,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "commissioner" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "collector,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "the President" the words "association, partnership, or individual,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "of" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "in addition to,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words

and for any default in the delivery of such list or return, with such declaration annexed, the bank, trust company, savings institution, insurance or other company making such default shall forfeit as a penalty one-third in addition to the tax levied,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "company" the words "association, partnership, or individual,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "commissioner" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "collector,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "commissioner," where it again occurs, and to insert in lieu thereof the word "collector,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add at the end of section 14 the following words, to wit:

For any default in the delivery of such list or return, with such declaration annexed, the bank, trust company, savings institution, insurance or other company making such default shall forfeit as a penalty one-third in addition to the tax levied,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to transpose section 14 as section 15,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "whether" the words "life, fire,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "sea" the words "or rivers,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "five,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "commissioner" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "collector,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the words "preceding quarter" the words "and any previous quarter not previously rendered,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "one of the officers" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "the president and chief officer,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "commissioner" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "collector,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add as an additional section the following, to wit:

A tax shall be levied and collected of ten per centum of the profit on every sale amounting to more than one hundred dollars of real or personal property bought or sold by any person, firm, or corporation, during the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and that part of the present year preceding the first day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, but this provision shall not apply to purchases and sales made in the due course of a business conducted under a license from a State, or taxed by a State,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to fill the blank in section 17 with the word "May,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "levied" the word "and,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert after the word "collected" the word "from,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the word "one" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "two and one-half,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add, in the eighteenth section, after the word "say," the words

when the assessed property, personal and real, of persons engaged in the actual military or naval service of the country shall be less than two thousand dollars,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "head of a family" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "person not in the actual military or naval service of the country,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "for public purpose,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to insert the words "or by municipal corporations,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add the words "Bonds of the Confederate States of America, and of the several States thereof,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add after the last amendment the words

All property from the possession, use, or enjoyment whereof the owners have been deprived by the enemy during the twelve months next before the time of assessment,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add as follows, to wit:

All agricultural products of the Confederate States produced on land which has paid a tax under the first section of this act in the hands of the producer other than such agricultural products as are specially taxed by the provisions of this act, provided that such productions shall be of the last preceding crop,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words

All agricultural productions of the Confederate States in the hands of the producer.

All mineral productions of the Confederate States in the hands of the producer or miner.

Nays: Arrington, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Marshall, McQueen, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Royston, the forty-second rule was suspended.

And on motion of Mr. Curry,

The House went into open session.

FIFTY-NINTH DAY—TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Wise.

Mr. Boteler moved that the rules be suspended and that the House take up for consideration a bill reported from the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

The motion was lost.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was

A bill for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the fifth section of the same by transposing the proviso therein to the end of the section; which was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the fifth section by striking out all of the same after the words "payable in his district" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "all the duties hereinafter required of district assessors shall be performed by the district collectors of each district."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the same section by striking out all thereof after the words "shall act as assessor."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That for the purpose of assessing and collecting the taxes heretofore laid by Congress under the provisions of an act passed at its present session, entitled "An act to lay and collect taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth sections of an act entitled "An act to authorize the issue of Treasury notes, and to provide a war tax for their redemption," approved August nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, are hereby reenacted and declared to be in full force, except as they may be hereinafter specially amended, altered, limited, restricted, or qualified.

SEC. 2. That the fifth section of said act shall be amended as follows: Strike out all of said section down to and including the word "tax," in the third line of said section, and insert in lieu thereof the following words: "That for the purpose of ascertaining the property and business liable to taxation under the provisions of any existing law of the Confederate States, and the value thereof, and the person or persons chargeable with the tax."

Also strike out the word "November," where it occurs in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the word "October." Also, in section nine of said act, strike out the word "October" and insert in lieu thereof the word "November." In the ninth section of said act, strike out the word "December," where it occurs in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the word "November."

In the tenth section of said act, strike out the word "February," where it occurs in said section, and insert in lieu thereof the word "March."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the seventh section by striking out the words "Monday in May" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "day in January."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved further to amend the same section by striking out the words "including all persons liable to pay a tax under the provisions of any act of Congress."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the seventh section by inserting after the word "proceed" the words "when necessary."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the tenth section by striking out the words "due for taxes" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "due for registered business;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the tenth section by inserting after the word "sickness" the words "or other sufficient reason."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Dupré moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "except in cases of sickness."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Moore moved to amend the same section by inserting after the word "sickness" the words "or other disability."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the tenth section by striking out the words "or failure to receive the notice;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the same section by striking out all of the same after the words "purposes of this act;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the tenth section by striking out the word "fifty" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "twenty."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the same section by inserting before the word "neglect" the word "willful."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the same section by striking out the word "give" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "furnish or transmit."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Heiskell moved to amend the tenth section by inserting after the words "the assessor shall thereupon" the words "except where otherwise provided for by law."

The amendment was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (H. R. 9) to authorize and regulate the impressment of private property for the use of the Army and other military purposes.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 20th instant, approve and sign a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 8. An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war.

The Senate have passed a bill entitled

S. 93. An act to provide tobacco for the Army:

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Dupré moved to amend the thirteenth section of the bill by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof sections 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of the act to authorize the issue of Treasury notes, and to provide a war tax for their redemption, approved August 19, 1861, leaving in blank all the dates as to the time of collecting taxes, returning lists, etc.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the thirteenth section by striking out the proviso thereof; which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the fourteenth section by striking out the word "and" before the words "written or printed notifications" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "or;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the fifteenth section by striking out the words "and in case of a direct tax of apportioning the amount of direct taxes which such property or owners thereof are liable to pay;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "deliver to the State collector" the words "who shall collate the same in proper form and forward a collated list to the commissioner of taxes," and to strike out the remainder of the section.

Mr. McDowell demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: {	Yeas -----	46
	Nays -----	23

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Burnett, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Conrad, Conrow, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Gardenhire, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Preston, Tibbs, and Villeré.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the bill by striking out sections 16, 17, 18, and to the words "give notice," in the nineteenth section, and inserting in lieu thereof the words

As soon as the said district collectors shall deliver their lists of assessment to the State collector, they shall respectively.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the nineteenth section by filling the blank therein with the word "fifteen;" which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Baldwin to fill the blank in the nineteenth section with the word "fifteen" was agreed to was reconsidered, and

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the blank was filled with the word "thirty."

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, the proviso to the nineteenth section was stricken out.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the twenty-first section by striking out the words "in preference to any other lien."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Trippe moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "the money" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "his appointment as collector."

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "for five years for" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "until he shall have accounted for and paid over."

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	23
{ Nays	43

Yeas: Arrington, Batson, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Collier, Dargan, Davis, Dupré, Garnett, Hanly, Hilton, Lewis, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Royston moved to amend the twenty-second section by striking out the words "together with an addition of twenty per centum."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "per centum" the words "per annum;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the twenty-second section by striking out the words "the said owner shall have the privilege of redeeming the said property at any time within two years after the close of his term of service" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

or shall be an infant under twenty-one years of age, a married woman, or person of unsound mind, the said owner shall have the privilege of redeeming the said property at any time within two years after the close of his term of service, or after the disability of such infant, married woman, or person of unsound mind is removed.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and it appearing that there was no quorum present,

On motion of Mr. Moore,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTIETH DAY—WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Hilton announced the presence of Mr. John M. Martin, a Representative-elect from the State of Florida, who came forward, was qualified, and took his seat.

On motion of Mr. Read, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Vest, on account of the illness of Mr. Cooke, for the purpose of accompanying him to Petersburg.

On motion of Mr. De Jarnette, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Staples, on account of indisposition.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act to increase the strength and efficiency of heavy artillery for seacoast defense.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was

A bill for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Clapp,

Mr. Clapp demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 45
Nays ----- 17

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenner, McQueen, Miles, and Simpson.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Ralls moved to amend the twenty-second section by striking out the word "five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "one."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "of the real estate thereby conveyed" the words "*Provided*, That all lands sold to one person at the same time shall be included in one deed."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gardenhire moved to amend the same section by striking out the word "five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "two."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the same section by striking out thereof the words

and for every deed so prepared, made, executed, proved, and acknowledged, the purchaser or grantee shall pay to the collector the sum of two dollars, for the use of the collector or other person effecting the sale of the real estate thereby conveyed.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Trippe moved to amend the same section by striking out the words

And in case of the death or removal of the collector, or the expiration of his term of office from any other cause, said record shall be deposited with his successor, if there be one appointed, and if not, then said record shall be deposited in the office of the State collector; and a copy of every such record, certified by the collector or the State collector, as the case may require, shall be evidence in any court of the truth

of the facts therein stated. And when any lands sold as aforesaid shall be redeemed as hereinbefore provided, the collector or chief collector, as the case may be, shall make an entry of the fact upon the record aforesaid; and the said entry shall be evidence of such redemption,

and insert in lieu thereof the words

This record shall be deposited in the clerk's office of the district court of the Confederate States in which the lands sold are situate, and a certified copy thereof shall be prima facie evidence in any court of the facts stated therein. And when any lands sold as aforesaid shall be redeemed as hereinbefore provided, the collector shall certify the fact of such redemption to the clerk of said court, to be filed with the record aforesaid as evidence of such redemption.

Mr. Herbert moved to amend the amendment by striking out thereof the words "district court of the Confederate States" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "the county court."

The amendment to the amendment was lost, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the twenty-second section by striking out thereof the words "for the use of the collector or other person effecting the sale of the real estate thereby conveyed" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

the deed so made shall be prima facie or presumptive evidence that all the prerequisites of the law have been complied with in effecting such sale, but may be rebutted by affirmative proof showing that irregularity or mistake was committed by the officers, or that the tax had been paid before sale, or land redeemed or due tender made for redemption in time.

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the twenty-fifth section by inserting after the words "commissioner of taxes, who," the words "upon ten days' notice."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "collected as hereinbefore provided" the words "he shall incur the penalty of one thousand dollars, and."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Moore moved to amend the same section by striking out the word "conclusive" before the words "evidence of title" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "prima facie," and to strike out the words "prima facie evidence," occurring before the words "of the right of the officer."

Mr. Ralls demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Holcombe moved to amend the bill by inserting as an additional section, after section 26, the following, viz:

When the holder of any credit whose duty it shall be to give in the same for valuation shall have refused to accept Confederate Treasury notes in discharge thereof, then all such credits shall be valued as payable in gold, and assessed at the market value of gold in Confederate notes at the time of assessment.

Mr. Atkins demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Holcombe demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	44
Nays	31

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, De Jarnette,

Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Welsh.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Boyce, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Farrow, Garnett, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 43. An act for the relief of the Brunswick and Albany Railroad Company, in the State of Georgia;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Ralls moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Holcombe was agreed to.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Clapp demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	Y	Yeas	-----	34
	N	Nays	-----	38

Yeas: Ashe, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Farrow, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, McRae, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Read, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, and Welsh.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the twenty-seventh section by inserting after the amendment of Mr. Holcombe the words

That all assessments of property, money, or credits shall be made according to their value in Treasury notes of the Confederate States.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the amendment by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the words

and that the property of all other persons who refuse to exchange their gold or silver for Treasury notes at par, or who demand larger prices in Treasury notes for produce, manufactured goods, or other property than their market value in specie, shall also be assessed at the market value of such gold, silver, or other property in Treasury notes, and tax paid on that valuation.

Mr. Clark moved to lay the amendment to the amendment on the table.

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	Y	Yeas	-----	39
	N	Nays	-----	29

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, and Trippe.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Burnett, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Farrow, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was agreed to.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison.

Mr. McLean moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Clark upon the table.

Mr. Tibbs demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	27
Nays	40

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Herbert, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, McLean, Miles, Miller, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Welsh.

So the House refused to lay the amendment on the table.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the amendment by striking out thereof the word "credits."

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton demanded the question.

Pending which,

On motion of Mr. Read,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTY-FIRST DAY—THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Peterkin.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., March 25, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War in response to your resolution of the 21st ultimo, inquiring whether official notice has been given to the proper officers of the provisions of an act to protect the rights of owners of slaves taken by or employed in the Army.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act for the relief of the Albany and Brunswick Railroad, in the State of Georgia;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to provide tobacco for the Army;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented joint resolution of the Senate in relation to the raising of provisions, which had been returned from the Senate with notice that that body had refused to concur in the amendment of the House thereto.

On motion of Mr. Chilton,

The House receded from its amendment to the joint resolution.

By unanimous consent, Mr. Curry offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Whereas the President, by proclamation, has set apart Friday, the twenty-seventh of March, as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer, and invited the people of the Confederate States "to repair, on that day, to their usual places of public worship, and to join in prayer to Almighty God that He will continue His merciful protection over our cause; that He will scatter our enemies and set at naught their evil designs, and that He will graciously restore to our beloved country the blessings of peace and security," and the House of Representatives desires publicly to testify its sense of dependence upon God and its trust in Him as our refuge and strength in this time of peril and danger: Therefore,

Resolved, That in order to unite with our fellow-citizens in the observance of the day, this House, when it adjourns to-day, will adjourn to meet on Saturday next.

Mr. Boteler moved to suspend the rules in order to take up from the table, for consideration,

A bill to establish a niter and mining bureau.

The motion to suspend the rules prevailed, and the bill was taken up.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by striking out the third section thereof; which is as follows, to wit:

Be it further enacted, That said bureau shall consist of one lieutenant-colonel, as superintendent, three majors, as assistant superintendents, six captains, and ten lieutenants, in which shall be included the officers of the present Niter Corps, who shall have the same pay and allowances prescribed for officers of cavalry of the same grades.

The motion to amend was lost, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Foote moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a bill.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill entitled "An act to prevent trading with the enemy, and in connection therewith dealing in the paper currency of the United States;"

which was read first and second times.

Mr. Foote moved further to suspend the rules requiring the bill to be referred to a committee.

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas 48 [46]
 } Nays 20

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Herbert, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, Mences, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Martin, Pugh, Read, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippie, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the rules were not suspended, and the bill was, on motion of Mr. Foote, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell moved to suspend the rules to enable him to make a report from the Committee on the Judiciary.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a bill of the Senate (51) to be entitled "An act to alter and amend an act entitled 'An act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States,' approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and an act altering and amending the same, approved the fifteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

And the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Herbert moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Herbert introduced the following resolution; which, was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Medical Department be instructed to inquire into and report to this House—

First. Whether soldiers confined in the several public hospitals, who, from wounds received in battle or from disease and infirmity of any kind, are now, and likely to be hereafter, incapable of further service in the Army within a reasonable time, be discharged from the Army.

Second. Whether soldiers disabled in the public service and likely to continue unfit for duty are not detained at unnecessary expense in the service; and if these grievances shall be found to exist, that the committee report a bill to the House to remedy the evil.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was the consideration of

A bill for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties.

The question being upon ordering the question, which had been called by Mr. Hilton, upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Clark to the amendment of Mr. Holcombe, to come in as section 27,

The call for the question was sustained, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell moved to amend by striking out section 27 of the original bill.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend by inserting after the word "made" the following words, to wit:

Provided, That the owner of such brewery, distillery, or place shall have refused to make out a sworn list of his taxable property in pursuance of this act; or, having made out such list, shall have made out an insufficient or unsatisfactory one.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by inserting after the word "district" the words "in which any taxed business is conducted."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell moved to amend by striking out the words "under the provisions of this act."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the bill by striking out the following words, in section 29, to wit:

and for the official acts and defaults of such deputy a remedy shall be had on the official bond of the collector, as in other cases; and any bond or security taken of such deputy by such collector pursuant to the provisions in this act shall be available to his heirs or representatives, to indemnify them for loss or damage accruing from any act of the proper deputy so continuing or so succeeding to the duties of such collector.

The amendment was lost.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 23d instant, approve and sign a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 11. An act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes.

I am directed to request the return to the Senate, from this House, of a bill of the Senate (93) to provide tobacco for the Army.

On motion, the vote by which a bill to provide tobacco for the Army was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs was reconsidered, and the same was ordered to be returned to the Senate.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved further to amend by striking out the words "resigned or be removed."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend by inserting after the words "successor be appointed" the words "not exceeding sixty days."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the bill by striking out, in section 30, the following words, to wit:

of the Confederate States or of the collector within whose district any such fine, penalty, or forfeiture shall have been incurred, in any proper form or action or by any appropriate form of proceeding before any circuit or district court of the Confederate States for the district within which said fine, penalty, or forfeiture may have been incurred, or before any court of competent jurisdiction; and where not otherwise and differently provided for, one moiety thereof shall be to the use of the Confederate States and the other moiety thereof to the use of a person who, if a collector or deputy collector, shall first inform of the cause, matter, or thing whereby any such fine, penalty, or forfeiture was incurred,

and to insert in lieu of the same the words

and for the use of the Confederate States, in any proper form of action or proceeding before any court of competent jurisdiction: *Provided*, That any person having to pay taxes in two or more collection districts of the same State, or who is a nonresident of the State in which he may have taxes to pay, may pay the whole amount of such taxes directly to the State collector of the State in which said taxes are due, who shall issue separate receipts, in duplicate, to such taxpayer, for the amount of taxes due and paid on property in each collection district where the same is located, one of said receipts to be retained by the taxpayer and the other to be delivered to the district collector of the district in which the property designated therein is situated.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Clapp by inserting after the words "State collector" the words "or the district collector of the district wherein the taxpayer resides, if in the same State."

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Clapp, as amended.

Mr. Clapp demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas----- 38
 } Nays----- 30

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Foster, Freeman, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrow, Currin, DeJarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Gardenhire, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Royston, Swan, Tibbs, and Trippe.

So the amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Conrad, inserting the words "not exceeding sixty days," in section 29, was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Conrad by inserting in lieu thereof the words "provided he shall not so act for a period exceeding sixty days."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by striking out the word "That," in section 31, and inserting in lieu thereof the following words, to wit:

Oaths or affirmations required under this act may be administered by any collector or assessor.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Graham moved to amend by striking out, in section 33, the following words, to wit: "shall report the same to the commissioner of taxes, who."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend by striking out the whole of section 33 and inserting in lieu thereof the words

When any tax shall have been paid by levy and distraint, any person or persons or party who may feel aggrieved thereby may apply to the State collector for relief and exhibit such evidence as he, she, or they may have of the wrong done or supposed to have been done; and if, after a full investigation, it shall be made to appear to the State collector that such tax was levied or collected, in whole or in part, wrongfully or unjustly, he shall refund the amount so wrongfully or unjustly levied or collected out of any moneys in his hands received in payment of taxes, and take a receipt therefor as the evidence of such payment in his settlement with the commissioner of taxes; or, if he have no such moneys in his hands, he shall issue his certificate in favor of the person or party to whom the said amount is due, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall, upon the presentation of such certificate, cause the same to be paid, through the commissioner of taxes, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Ashe moved to reconsider the vote by which the House agreed to the amendment of Mr. Clark to the amendment of Mr. Holcombe, to come in as section 27 of the bill.

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yea	28
Nay	47

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Johnston, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McRae, Mences, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Villeré.

So the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by striking out the words

certify the amount wrongfully and unjustly levied or collected, and the same shall be refunded and paid to the person or persons or party, as aforesaid, from any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, upon the presentation of such certificate to the proper officer thereof.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by striking out, in section 34, the word "conclusive" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "prima facie."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend by striking out the following words, in section 35, to wit:

and in all cases where lands may be sold under this act for the payment of taxes, belonging to infants, persons of insane mind, and married women, such person shall have the term of two years after their respective disabilities shall have been removed to redeem lands thus sold, on their payment to the collector of the district in which the land or other real property lies, for the use of the purchaser, the amount paid by such purchaser, with fifty per centum addition thereto, together with ten per centum interest per annum on the aggregate sum, and on their payment to the purchaser of the land aforesaid a compensation for all improvements he may have made on the premises subsequent to his purchase, the value of which improvements shall be ascertained by three or more neighboring freeholders, to be appointed by said collector, who, on an actual view of the premises, shall assess the value of such improvements, on their oaths, and make return of such valuation to the collector immediately. And the collector shall receive such compensation for his services herein, to be paid by and received from the parties like costs of suit, as a court shall in that respect tax and allow.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the same section by inserting after the word "administrators" the words "or any person for him or them."

The amendment was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 96. An act to increase the pay of masters' mates in the Navy; and

S. 91. An act to increase the allowance for mileage to officers of the Navy and agents traveling under orders;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Graham moved to amend section 37 by adding thereto the following words, to wit:

And that in those States and localities which are or may be temporarily inaccessible, or which are so remote from the seat of government as to render it impracticable for lists or returns to be made by the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, as required in the sixth section of this act, it shall be the duty of the commissioner of taxes, by authority of the Secretary of the Treasury, to make such extension of the time for making such lists and returns as circumstances and the public interests may require.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Crockett moved to amend the same section by striking out the words

and may also correct all errors in assessments, valuations, and tax lists, or in the collection thereof, in such form and upon such evidence as may be prescribed.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clopton moved to amend the same section by striking out the following words, to wit:

That the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, is authorized to establish all rules and regulations suitable and proper to carry this act into effect, which regulations shall be binding on all officers; he may, in like manner, frame instructions as to all details, which shall be obligatory upon all parties embraced within the provisions of this act.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Gray moved to amend by striking out the words proposed to be stricken out by the amendment of Mr. Clopton and including the word "And."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled and ready for the signature of the Speaker

S. S. Joint resolution relating to the production of provisions.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend by inserting, in section 38, after the word "five," the words "hundred dollars and two and one-half."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by inserting after the word "over," in same section, the words "until the same shall attain a maximum of two thousand dollars."

Mr. Clark moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Smith by striking out "two" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "one."

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Smith by striking out the words "two thousand" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "twenty-five hundred."

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Hilton.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. on Saturday.

SIXTY-SECOND DAY—SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Peterkin.

The Chair presented Senate bill (96) to be entitled "An act to

increase the pay of masters' mates in the Navy;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Also, Senate bill (91) to be entitled "An act to increase the allowance for mileage to officers of the Navy and agents traveling under orders;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Kemmer, from the Committee of Ways and Means, by unanimous consent, to whom was referred a resolution requesting the President to cause to be submitted to Congress estimates of appropriations for the first half of the next fiscal year, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The report of the committee was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Chair to investigate the charges against the integrity of the chief collector of the war tax in the State of Virginia, in relation to the passage of a bill increasing the compensation of collectors of the war tax.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Perkins by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to investigate an alleged improper influence exercised by the chief collector of the war tax in the State of Virginia, to procure the passage of a bill through this House.

Mr. Garland moved to lay the resolution and amendment on the table.

Upon which Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 38
Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Hodge, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Vest, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clifton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Kenan of Georgia, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion did not prevail, and the amendment offered by Mr. Clapp was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Clapp was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Foster demanded the previous question; which was ordered.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Clapp,

The same was lost.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the resolution of Mr. Perkins.

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Military Affairs.

Upon which Mr. Garnett demanded the yeas and nays.

Less than one-fifth of the members present rising to sustain the demand, the yeas and nays were not ordered, and the rules were [not] suspended.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill (S. 48) to be entitled "An act to authorize the discharge of certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States."

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

And the bill having been taken up,

Mr. Chilton moved to amend by striking out therefrom the following words, to wit:

Provided, That no person elected or appointed to any civil office shall be discharged under this act, unless the office to which he may be elected or appointed is such an office as entitles the officer filling it, under exemption laws now existing, or which may hereafter be passed, to exemption from military service in the armies of the Confederate States.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was the consideration of

A bill for the assessment and collection of direct taxes and internal duties.

The question being upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Chilton to the amendment of Mr. Smith of North Carolina to section 38,

The amendment to the amendment was lost, and the amendment of Mr. Smith of North Carolina was agreed to.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "two and a half" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "one."

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the same section by filling the blank therein with the word "five."

Mr. Clark moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Chambliss by striking out the word "five" and inserting the word "three."

The amendment of Mr. Chambliss was lost.

And the question recurring upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Clark,

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yeas	52
Nays	28

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, De Jarnette,

Dupré, Farrow, Garland, Hartridge, Herbert, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Simpson, Singleton, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the amendment was agreed to.*

Mr. Foster moved to amend by adding at the end of the section the following words, to wit:

Provided such compensation shall not exceed one thousand dollars.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clark moved further to amend the section by striking out the word "five," after the word "also," and inserting in lieu thereof the word "three."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Hilton to section 38 was adopted.

The motion to reconsider prevailed, and

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, the amendment of Mr. Hilton was laid on the table.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the bill by striking out section 40 therefrom.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to fill the blank in section 41 with the words "twenty-five hundred."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved to fill the blank with the words "seventeen hundred and fifty;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by striking out, in the same section, the words "in addition to the regular salary allowed by law to clerks in the Treasury Department."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend by inserting as section 42 the following, to wit:

No person shall be appointed to any office or employment under the commissioner of taxes and State collectors provided for by this act who is liable to military duty in the Confederate Army.

Mr. Read moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Perkins by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

No person shall be eligible to fill any of the offices enumerated under this act unless he shall have attained the age of forty-five years, or if under that age, shall have been discharged from military duty by reason of disability received in the military service, or shall have been declared unfit for military duty by the proper board from other causes.

Upon which Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas 38
 } Nays 34

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Hanly, Heiskell, Jones, Launder, Lewis, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Smith of Alabama, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dupré, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Goode,

Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Herbert, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment to the amendment was agreed to, and the amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin, by unanimous consent, moved to amend the bill by striking out, in section 5, the words "the said district collectors shall appoint in their respective districts" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "the collector in each State shall appoint in each district, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend by striking out section 42 and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Any taxpayer, at any time prior to the first day of August next, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, [may?] pay into the Treasury in advance such sum as he may choose on account of taxes to accrue against him in the present or next year, and obtain a receipt therefor. Such receipt shall not be transferable, but shall be received by the tax collector in settlement of taxes due from such taxpayer, allowing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum on the amount of such receipt from its date, and a discount of five per cent on an equal amount of taxes.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by striking out the word "six," in the forty-second section.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Gray moved to amend by inserting after the words "against him" the words "during the present year."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Foster moved to amend by adding as an additional section the following, to wit:

No appointment of officers shall be made for States or districts in the hands of the enemy, while the same are so held.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Sexton, by unanimous consent, moved to amend by adding at end of section 11 the following, to wit:

Provided, That where evidence of the title of the owner of real estate is on record in the district where it is situated, the assessor shall make no list or return thereof within less than six months from the time at which he shall commence his regular annual assessment.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend by adding as an additional section the following, to wit:

All bonds required to be executed under the provisions of this act shall be made payable to the Confederate States.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend by adding as an additional section the following, to wit:

No assessment or collection of taxes shall be made under this act on property of the usual products or profits of which, or more than one-half thereof, during the year next preceding the time of assessment the owners have been deprived by the enemy; or on property which has been abandoned by the owner, overseer, or agent on the near approach of the enemy: *Provided*, It shall appear to the assessor, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, that more than one-half of the usual products or profits thereof during the year next preceding

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Breekinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Con-

rad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Heiskell, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munterlyn, Preston, Ralls, Read, Singleton, Tibbs, and Trippe.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Bridgers, Chambers, Collier, Davidson, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Baldwin moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion to reconsider did not prevail.

And the title of the bill was, on motion of Mr. Conrad, amended by striking out therefrom the words "direct" and "internal duties."

On motion of Mr. McQueen, leave of absence was granted Mr. Royston, on account of important business.

And on motion of Mr. Wilcox,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. on Monday.

SIXTY-THIRD DAY—MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Chair appointed as the special committee, under the resolution offered by Mr. Perkins on Saturday, Messrs. Perkins of Louisiana, Staples of Virginia, Curry of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Singleton of Mississippi.

Mr. McDowell moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution in relation to the adjournment of Congress.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act defining who shall be exempt from serving in the armies of the Confederate States," reported the same back, with the recommendation that the further consideration of the bill be postponed until 12 o'clock m. to-morrow; which was agreed to.

Mr. Harris, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill for the relief of the families of the noncommissioned officers and privates of the Confederate Army, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the bill do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Harris, on the part of the Military Committee, moved that the bill introduced during the last session of Congress on the same subject be transferred to the Calendar of the present session; which was agreed to.

Mr. Swan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill in relation to the enrollment of foreigners in the armies of the Confederate States, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the bill be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the bill, and that it do lie upon the table.

The question being on discharging the committee,

Mr. Read demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	9
Nays	68

Yeas: Boyce, Conrad, Conrow, Heiskell, Lewis, Miles, Perkins, Royston, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the House refused to discharge the committee from the consideration of the bill.

Mr. Read moved that the regular Calendar business be postponed to enable him to offer a motion to reconsider the vote refusing to discharge the committee.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Read moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the House refused to discharge the committee; which was agreed to, and

The committee was discharged from the further consideration of the bill.

On motion of Mr. Read, the bill was taken up.

And the question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, the further consideration of the bill was postponed, and it was made the special order of business for 12 o'clock m. on Wednesday next.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to increase and strengthen the Army of the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do not pass and that it be placed upon the Calendar; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to prevent the conscription of officers resigning their commands on account of wounds received or diseases contracted in the service of their country,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the bill do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Lieut. Col. Joseph A. Yates and the officers and men under his command, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the joint resolution was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill in relation to the enrollment of foreigners in the armies of the Confederate States, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Miles also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to the official reports of Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on the postponement and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The resolution was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

Resolved, That the Adjutant-General be requested to call upon Major-General John C. Breckinridge for his official report of the operations of his command at the battles of Shiloh, Baton Rouge, and Murfreesboro, and that when received, copies thereof shall be sent to this House and shall be printed.

The committee moved to amend the same by striking out all after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to this House copies of such official reports of general officers of the battles of Shiloh, Baton Rouge, Murfreesboro, Fort Pillow, Island No. 10, and New Madrid as have not yet been communicated to Congress.

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Miles also, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to furnish this House, in secret session, with a tabular statement of the number of troops from each State, of all arms, now in the service; the number of troops from each State prior to the passage of the first conscription law; the number prior to the passage of the second conscription law, from each State; the number of conscripts received into the Army by the operation of each of these laws, from each State; the number of volunteers received prior to and since the passage of these laws, from each State; the number of soldiers lost in battle, disabled, discharged, died in hospitals, etc., from each State; and such other information of a statistical character, with reference to the Army, as may seem to him judicious and proper.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The resolution was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Miles also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to provide for the payment of officers acting under temporary appointments from the commanders of any department, corps, division, or brigade, reported the same back and asked to be discharged from its further consideration, which was agreed to; and

On motion of Mr. Machen, the same was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution abolishing camps of instruction, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to provide for the appointment of additional quartermasters in the Provisional Army,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint, during the continuance of the present war, such an additional number of quartermasters in the Provisional Army as in his judgment the good of the service may require, who may be assigned to duty as quartermasters of armies, army corps, divisions, camps of instruction, prisons, or to such other appropriate duties as the Secretary of War may direct,

Mr. Miles, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the bill by striking out all thereof after the word "require."

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles also, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to declare what persons shall be exempt from the military service, and to repeal all acts of exemption heretofore passed, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the bill do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Miles also, from the same committee, to which was referred two petitions on the subject of exemption, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to provide for continuing in service seamen and ordinary seamen now in the service of the Confederate States," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Gartrell demanded the question; which was ordered.

The question being on postponing and placing the bill upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chambliss, from the same committee, reported

A bill to regulate the pay of the officers formerly belonging to the revenue service of the United States and now in the employment of the Confederate States;

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chambliss, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate for the relief of certain officers of the Navy and of the Marine Corps, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Department of State," approved February 21, 1861,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Gartrell also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to repeal the laws of naturalization, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do not pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all laws and parts of laws of the United States establishing a uniform rule of or relating to naturalization, and which are in force in the Confederate States by virtue of an act entitled "An act to continue in force certain laws of the United States of America," adopted February ninth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, are hereby repealed,

Mr. Gray moved to amend the same by adding thereto the following, to wit:

Provided, That this act shall not impair the right of resident aliens who have made their declaration of intention to become citizens, but they may be naturalized and become citizens at any time within three years from the passage of this act.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss moved further to amend the same by adding the following words, to wit:

Provided, That they do not claim exemption from military service on account of not being citizens.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendments be postponed and made the special order of business for Monday next, at 12 o'clock m., and that the same be printed.

Mr. Machen demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Freeman demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Royston demanded the previous question; which was not ordered.

Mr. Dupré demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Dupré demanded the question; which was ordered, and was upon the passage of the bill as amended.

Mr. Curry demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 69
 } Nays ----- 8

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Holt, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Virginia, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Boyce, Johnston, Jones, Marshall, Moore, Perkins, and Russell.

So the bill as amended was passed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to audit and pay claims for the use and occupation of and damages to lands, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the same, and that it do lie upon the table.

The question being on discharging the committee,

Mr. Crockett demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 69
 } Nays ----- 8

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Holt, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Boteler, Collier, De Jarnette, Garnett, Lewis, and Lyon.

So the House discharged the committee, and the bill was laid upon the table.

Mr. Garland, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the petition of certain citizens of Kentucky, asking remuneration for provisions, etc., furnished the Confederate Army, and the memorial of J. W. Cooley, of the county of Frederick, Va., in reference to the impressment of his cattle, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 5. An act to establish the court for the investigation of claims against the Government of the Confederate States;

S. 41. An act to amend the several acts prescribing the mode of publishing the laws and resolutions of the Confederate States;

S. 67. An act to declare the mode of paying salaries to officers in foreign parts;

S. 90. An act relative to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved 16th May, 1861; and

S. 97. An act to exempt contractors for carrying the mails [of the Confederate States] and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Leave was granted Mr. Perkins to have printed an amendment to the exemption bill.

Mr. Garland, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to an increase of the pay of the pages of this House,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

Mr. Breckinridge demanded the question; which was ordered, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill providing for the punishment of pecuniary fraud in public officers, their aiders and abettors, and to punish the fraudulent reception or retention of public money by public officers beyond what they may be entitled to receive,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

A bill to be entitled "An act to alter and amend an act entitled 'An act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States,' approved August thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and an act altering and amending the same, approved on the fifteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

And the Speaker signed the same.

On motion of Mr. Chambers, the rules were suspended to enable him to offer a motion to enlarge the Committee on Enrolled Bills, and

Mr. Chambers moved that the Speaker be authorized to appoint two additional members upon said committee.

The motion was agreed to, and

The Chair appointed thereon Messrs. Garland of Arkansas and Wilcox of Texas.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend the several acts prescribing the mode of publishing the laws and resolutions of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to establish the court for the investigation of claims against the Government of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act in relation to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved sixteenth May, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to declare the mode of paying salaries to officers in foreign parts;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Goode, on account of sickness.

Mr. Lyons moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to present a memorial; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of P. Bargamin, of Richmond, Va., in relation to the impressment of a house by the Government, without compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Moore, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Burnett, on account of urgent business.

On motion of Mr. Read,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTY-FOURTH DAY--TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Hilton moved that he be excused from further service upon the special committee of one from each State appointed to provide for the relief of sick and disabled soldiers; which was agreed to.

The Chair appointed Mr. Martin of Florida thereon in place of Mr. Hilton.

The Chair also appointed upon the Committee on Naval Affairs Mr. Martin of Florida, and upon the Committee on Rules and Officers of the House Mr. Jones of Tennessee.

On motion of Mr. Holt, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Hart-ridge, on account of sickness.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the rule requiring a call of the States for memorials, resolutions, etc., be suspended, and that the House proceed with the call of the committees.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Clapp introduced

A bill to provide for keeping in repair the railroads of the Confederate States necessary for the transportation of troops and Government supplies;

which was read the first and second times, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

Mr. Welsh introduced

A bill to repeal all laws authorizing the employment of substitutes in the armies of the Confederate States;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Barksdale presented the memorial of Elisha Taylor and others, of Rankin County, Miss., in relation to the sequestration of certain property; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

Mr. Harris introduced

A bill to provide for the relief of officers and soldiers who have been irregularly introduced into the military service of the Confederate States;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Harris also offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Printing be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending act numbered two hundred and eight of the Provisional Congress, so as to provide for the printing and distribution, or sale, of a larger number of copies of the laws, and to report by bill or otherwise;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Harris introduced

A bill to regulate the payment of mileage to officers in the service of the Confederate States;

which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Harris moved that the rule requiring a reference of the bill be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation.

Mr. Harris also introduced

A bill to prohibit the improper employment of soldiers and sailors; which was read the first and second times.

Mr. Harris moved that the rule requiring a reference of the bill to a committee be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Harris also introduced

A bill to facilitate the authentication of official and other bonds; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. McDowell offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall adjourn their respective bodies, sine die, on Monday the thirteenth of April, at twelve o'clock meridian.

Mr. McDowell demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Davis moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the question was ordered; which was agreed to, and the demand for the question was withdrawn.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the resolution by striking out the word "thirteenth" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "twenty-seventh."

Mr. Wright of Texas moved to lay the resolution and amendment upon the table, and demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 41
 } Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Martin, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Herbert, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the House refused to lay the resolution and amendment on the table.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the resolution by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

That the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives adjourn their respective bodies at twelve meridian, twenty-eighth day of April next, to meet on Monday, the sixteenth day of November next, at twelve meridian.

Mr. Curry demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 38
 } Nays ----- 47

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Herbert, Hodge, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

by the Senate and House of Representatives, That the Congress of the Confederate States will adjourn on Monday, the twenty-seventh of April, at twelve meridian, to meet again on Monday, the fifth of October next.

Mr. Russell moved that the resolution and amendment be laid upon the table.

Mr. Villeré called for the special order of business.

On motion of Mr. Gray, the special order of business was postponed.

And the question being on laying the resolution and amendment on the table,

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 41
Nays ----- 45

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Gray, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Pugh, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Foster demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

The question being on the passage of the resolution,

Mr. Royston demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 36
Nays ----- 47

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Pugh, Royston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the resolution was lost.

Mr. Gray moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was lost.

And the House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was a bill of the Senate defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States.

Mr. Miles, on the part of the Committee on Military Affairs, moved that the bill be laid upon the table.

The motion was lost.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the following-named persons are hereby exempted from service in the armies of the Confederate States, upon the terms and conditions hereinafter stated:

I. Those who shall be held unfit for service in the field by reason of bodily or mental incapacity—to be ascertained by a surgeon of the Army who is not a resident of the part of the country from which those he is called upon to examine may have come—and persons declared to be unfit for duty in the field under this act or under the act entitled “An act to establish places of rendezvous for the examination of enrolled men,” approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, by reason of any organic disease or permanent disability, shall not be afterwards subject to be again examined and enrolled.

II. The Vice-President, the officers, judicial and executive, of the Confederate and State governments, including postmasters appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and such clerks in their offices as are now allowed by the Postmaster-General and were employed therein on the sixteenth of April last, excluding all other postmasters, their assistants and clerks, and such State officers other than the judges of the supreme, district, superior, circuit, and probate courts, the chancellors of State courts and sheriffs, excluding justices of the peace, as the several States may have declared, or may hereafter declare, by law, to be liable to militia duty; the members of Congress of the Confederate States and of the legislatures of the several States, and their respective officers; all clerks in the offices of the Confederate and State governments authorized by law and receiving salaries or fees fixed by law: *Provided*, That this act shall not be construed to exempt from service persons appointed by the officers of the executive departments, or by other executive authority, since the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and who were liable to military service when appointed, under the various acts of enrollment.

III. All volunteer troops heretofore raised by any State since the passage of the act entitled “An act further to provide for the public defense,” approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while such troops shall be in active service under State authority: *Provided*, That this exemption shall not apply to any person who was liable to be called into service by virtue of said act of sixteenth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

IV. All pilots and persons engaged in the merchant marine service, excluding such owners of vessels as are not actually employed in navigating the same; the president, and such superintendents, roadmasters, station agents, conductors, engineers, and mechanics, in the permanent service of railroad companies, as the president thereof may, under oath, declare to be necessary, not to include laborers or any other employees: *Provided*, That no president or conductor of any railroad company or railroad train shall be exempted from military service under this act when such president or conductor shall fail, neglect, or refuse to furnish seats to such wounded or sick soldiers of the Army as may desire transportation over such railroad, and fresh water, for drinking purposes, in such tanks or other vessels in each passenger car as may be necessary for the use of said sick and wounded, and also the necessary fires to render said cars comfortable; captains of boats, and the engineers and pilots thereof, actually engaged in canal and river navigation; the president of any canal company, the secretary, chief clerks, chief toll gatherer, and such mechanics in the permanent service of said company as the president, under oath, shall declare to be necessary; the president, general superintendent, and operators of telegraphic companies, and the local operators of said companies, not to exceed two in number at any telegraphic office but that at the seat of government of the Confederate States.

V. One editor of each newspaper now being published, and such journeymen printers, engineers, pressmen, stenographic reporters, and mailing clerks as the editor or proprietor thereof may certify, upon oath, to be indispensable for conducting the publication; the Public Printer, engineers, pressmen, and such number of journeymen printers as he may certify, upon oath, to be necessary for the discharge of his duty.

VI. Every minister of religion authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect, and now in the regular discharge of ministerial duties, and all persons who have

been, since the sixteenth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and now are, members of the Society of Friends, or the Association of Dunkards, Nazarinens, or Menonists, in regular membership in their respective denominations: *Provided*, That such members shall furnish a substitute or pay a tax of five hundred dollars each into the public treasury.

VII. All shoemakers, tanners, blacksmiths, wagon makers, millers and their engineers, and millwrights, skilled and actually employed on the sixteenth of April last in said trades as their regular vocation, and working therein for the public, and who have since said time been so regularly employed: *Provided*, Said persons shall make oath in writing, and present the same to the enrolling officer, that they are so skilled and are, and have been, since the sixteenth of April last, actually employed in one of the above trades as their regular vocations, and working for the public, which affidavit shall, however, only be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated; also the superintendents and operatives in wool and cotton factories, paper mills, and carding machines, and in card factories, and factories for the manufacture of wire for cotton and wool cards: *Provided*, That the exemptions herein granted to persons on account of their mechanical skill or occupation shall be subject to the condition that the products of the labor of said exempts shall not exceed a fair and reasonable amount, and to be within a maximum to be fixed by the Secretary of War, under such regulations as he may prescribe: *And provided*, That in the case of the superintendents and operatives in wool and cotton factories, paper mills, carding machines, and mechanics in these and all other manufacturing establishments, the manufactured articles shall be sold at a net profit not to exceed thirty per centum per annum upon the capital invested, which fact shall be ascertained by the oath of the president, superintendent, or proprietors of such manufacturing establishment: *And provided*, That if it shall be shown, upon evidence to be submitted to and judged of by the Secretary of War, that any manufacturing establishment has violated this condition, the exemptions herein granted shall no longer be extended to the persons employed in said establishments or factories, but each of them shall be forthwith enrolled and placed in the military service.

VIII. All presidents and teachers of schools, academies, colleges, and theological seminaries, who have been regularly engaged as such for the two years last preceding the eleventh October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or who were engaged in teaching school as a profession on the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and who are now so engaged; all superintendents of lunatic asylums and the regular physicians, nurses, and attendants therein, and all teachers regularly employed in the institutions for the deaf, dumb, and blind.

IX. All physicians who now are, and have been for the last five years, in the actual practice of their profession; and in each apothecary store now established and doing business, one practical apothecary, in good standing as such.

X. All artisans and mechanics employed in the manufacture of arms or ordnance of any kind by the several States, or by contractors to furnish the same to the several State governments, whom the governor or secretary of state thereof may certify to be necessary to the same.

XI. All persons engaged in the construction of ships, gunboats, engines, or sails necessary to the public defense, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy.

XII. All superintendents and employees engaged at salt works conducted under authority of any State, and all superintendents of laborers engaged in the manufacture or mining of salt to the extent of twenty bushels per day: *Provided*, That there is not more than one superintendent for every twenty laborers; all superintendents of laborers (not to exceed one for every twenty laborers) engaged regularly in the production of lead or iron or in burning coke for smelting or the manufacture of iron; regular and skilled miners in coal mines, and colliers engaged in making charcoal for making pig and bar iron.

XIII. For the police of slaves, one person on each farm or plantation the sole property of a minor, a person of unsound mind, a feme sole, or a person absent from home in the military or naval service of the Confederacy, on which there are twenty or more slaves: *Provided*, The person so exempted was employed and acting as an overseer previous to the sixteenth of April last, and there is no white male adult on said farm or plantation who is not liable to military duty, which fact shall be verified by the affidavits of said person and two respectable citizens, and shall be filed with the enrolling officer: *And provided*, That the enrolling officer shall be satisfied that no white male adult not liable to military duty can be procured by ordinary diligence, suitable for said purpose: *Provided further*, That this clause shall not extend to any farm or plantation on which the negroes have been placed by division from any other farm or plantation since the eleventh day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

XIV. That on any farm on which resides a family of white women and children not less than ten in number, who are dependent for support and protection on the labor and presence of a white man, and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military duty, or male minor or minors capable of working said farm, there shall be exempted one person as laborer, when said person shall verify the facts aforesaid by his own and the affidavits of two respectable citizens, to be filed with the enrolling officer, and shall also make affidavit that said person so to be exempted designs in good faith to act in said capacity on said farm; and in the event of a failure to do so, at any time thereafter, this exemption as to said person shall cease: *Provided*, The enrolling officer shall be satisfied that a white male adult, not liable to military duty, can not be procured suitable for said purpose.

XV. Such other persons as the President shall be satisfied ought to be exempted on account of justice, equity, or necessity.

SEC. 2. That all exemptions granted by law shall only continue whilst the person is holding the office or engaged in the pursuit or occupation by reason of which the exemption was granted; and nothing in this act or any other in relation to exemptions shall be construed so as to exempt agents, clerks, or other persons employed by officers in the quartermaster, commissary, or other departments of the Government, unless such agents or clerks are allowed by law, and their fees or salaries fixed by law; nor shall anything herein contained be construed so as to authorize the discharge of anyone now in the military service of the Confederate Government.

SEC. 3. That all laws and parts of laws providing for exemption from military service are hereby repealed; and no person exempted under previous laws shall continue to be exempted unless embraced within the provisions and on the terms and conditions of this act. The provisions of this act shall apply to all persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years not in the military service,

Mr. McRae moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That certain persons, as hereinafter provided, are and shall be exempt from military service in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

I. Persons who shall be held unfit for military service in the field by reason of mental or physical incapacity or imbecility, under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

II. The Vice-President of the Confederate States, and the officers, judicial and executive, of the Confederate and State governments, including postmasters appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and such clerks now employed in their offices as are allowed in writing by the Postmaster-General, and excluding all other postmasters, their assistants and clerks, and except such State officers as the several States may have declared or may hereafter declare, by law, to be liable to military duty in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

III. Members of both Houses of the Congress of the Confederate States and of the legislatures of the several States, and their respective officers.

IV. All volunteer troops heretofore raised by any State since the passage of the act further to provide for the public defense, approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while such troops shall be in active service under State authority: *Provided*, This exemption shall not include any person liable to military duty under said last-named act.

V. Pilots and persons actually and regularly engaged in the merchant marine service.

VI. Captains, engineers, pilots, and mechanics of boats actually and regularly employed in river or canal navigation.

VII. Presidents, superintendents, engineers, and section masters of railroads, and the artisans and mechanics regularly employed in the workshops of railroad companies.

VIII. The president, general superintendent, and operators of telegraph companies, and the local superintendent and operators of said companies, not to exceed two in number at any locality, except the seat of government of the Confederate States.

IX. Such printers of each newspaper now being published in the Confederate States as the editor or proprietor thereof may certify, on oath, to be indispensable for conducting the publication; also the Public Printer, and those employed to perform the public printing for the Confederate and State governments.

X. Ministers of religion authorized to preach according to the rules of their sect, and in the regular discharge of ministerial duty; also all persons who have been, and now are, members of the Society of Friends, and the Association of Dunkards, Naz-

arines, and Mennonists, in regular membership in their respective denominations: *Provided*, Each member of said denominations shall have furnished a substitute or paid the tax of five hundred dollars into the public treasury, as authorized under the exemption act, approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or shall hereafter pay said tax.

XI. Physicians who now are, and for the last five years have been, in the actual practice of their profession.

XII. Superintendents of public hospitals, lunatic asylums, and the regular physicians, nurses, and attendants therein, and the teachers employed in the institutions of the deaf, dumb, and blind.

XIII. Presidents and teachers of colleges, academies, schools, and theological seminaries, who have been regularly engaged as such for two years previous to the passage of this act.

XIV. One practical apothecary in each drug store now established and regularly engaged in the sale of drugs, upon the payment by said apothecary or his employer of five hundred dollars, annually, into the Treasury of the Confederate States.

XV. The regiment raised under and by authority of the State of Texas for frontier defense, now in the service of said State, and while in such service.

XVI. All artisans, mechanics, and employees in the establishments of the Government for the manufacture of arms, ordnance, ordnance stores, and other munitions of war, or army supplies, who may be certified, under oath, by the officer in charge thereof as indispensable to such establishments. All artisans, mechanics, and employees in the establishments of such persons as are or may be engaged, under contracts with the Government, in furnishing arms, ordnance, ordnance stores, and other munitions of war: *Provided*, The Chief of the Ordnance Bureau, or some ordnance officer authorized by him for the purpose, shall approve of the number of operatives required in such establishments: *And provided also*, That the persons so contracting with the Government shall make oath, in writing, to be filed with the Secretary of War, that the artisans, mechanics, and employees in said establishments are indispensable thereto, on account of their skill in such work and labor; and that, after diligent effort, they have been unable to procure artisans, mechanics, or employees who have been discharged from the Provisional Army, or who are not subject to military duty. Also all persons employed in the manufacture of arms or ordnance of any kind by the several States, or by contractors to furnish the same to the several State governments, whom the governor or secretary of state thereof may certify to be necessary to the same: *Provided*, That said last-named contractors shall make oath as required in this paragraph of contractors with the Confederate Government.

XVII. All persons engaged, under the authority of the Secretary of the Navy, in the construction of ships, gunboats, engines, sails, or other articles necessary to the public defense.

XVIII. Superintendents and operators in wool and cotton factories and paper mills, whom the Secretary of War may approve as necessary for such establishments. The owners of said wool and cotton factories and paper mills to make affidavit, in writing, to be filed with the Secretary of War, that said superintendents and operators are skilled as such and indispensable to said establishments.

XIX. Superintendents, mechanics, and miners, employed in the production and manufacture of lead and iron; also persons engaged in burning coke for the smelting and manufacture of iron; regular miners in coal mines, and one collier to each furnace and forge for making blooms and pig and bar iron, not to embrace laborers, messengers, wagoners, and servants, unless employed at works conducted and [by] the officers or agents of a State, or in works employed in the production of iron for the Confederate States: *Provided*, The persons interested in the exemption from military duty of said superintendents, mechanics, miners, and colliers shall make affidavit in writing that said persons are skilled in said labor, and are indispensable to such works; and that, after diligent effort, they have been unable to procure superintendents, mechanics, miners, and colliers who have been discharged from the Provisional Army, or who are not subject to military duty.

XX. Blacksmiths, millwrights, and the engineers of flour, grist, and saw mills, skilled, actually and regularly employed in said trades, and regularly engaged in working for the public.

XXI. All exemptions herein granted to persons by reason of their peculiar mechanical or other occupation or employment, not connected with the public service, shall be subject to the condition that the products of the labor of such exempts, or of the companies and establishments in which they are employed, shall be sold and disposed of by the proprietors thereof at prices not to exceed seventy-five per centum upon the cost of production, or within a maximum to be fixed by the Secretary of War, under such regulations as he may prescribe; and it shall be the duty of said proprietors to have at all times exhibited, in the most conspicuous place in their said establish-

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Lander, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Ralls, Royston, Strickland, Trippe, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Garnett, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Herbert, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, McRae, Mences, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the House refused to suspend the rules.

Mr. McRae demanded the previous question.

The previous question was ordered.

And the question being on agreeing to the amendment,

Mr. Curry demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yeas	46
Nays	34

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Harris, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Miles, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Davidson, Gaither, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, and Welsh.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was read a third time.

And the question being on the passage of the same,

Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Davis moved that he be excused from voting upon the bill as amended.

The motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendment proposed by the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 48) entitled "An act to authorize the discharge of certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States."

They have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 102. An act to amend the several acts fixing the pay and allowances to chaplains in the Provisional Army; and

S. 103. An act to authorize the increase of the compensation of route agents, and to increase the per diem allowance to special agents of the Post-Office Department.

They have also passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 10. Joint resolution authorizing the Postmaster-General to extend the time for receiving bids for transportation of the mails in the States therein named;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Perkins moved that the further consideration of the bill be indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend the several acts fixing the pay and allowances to chaplains in the Provisional Army;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to authorize an increase of the compensation of route agents, and to increase the per diem allowance to special agents of the Post-Office Department;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The Chair also presented a joint resolution of the Senate authorizing the Postmaster-General to extend the time for receiving bids for transportation of the mails in the States therein named; which was read the first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the rule requiring a reference of the resolution to a committee was suspended, and the same was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Russell moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to present a memorial; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Russell presented the memorial of William Waller in relation to property destroyed by the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the rules were further suspended to enable him to introduce a bill, and

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for an increase in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments," approved February 15, 1862; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Perkins moved a reconsideration of the vote by which a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to provide for the appointment of additional quartermasters in the Provisional Army" was passed.

Pending the consideration of which,

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

* The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Kenner, went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. McRae in the chair, on a bill to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers and steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had, according to order, had under consideration the matter referred to them, and reported the bill back to the House, with the recommendation that it be passed.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 58. An act to establish a volunteer navy;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair presented a bill of the Senate (S. 58) to establish a volunteer navy; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Also, joint resolution (S. 2) relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, bill of the Senate (S. 82) to authorize retaliation on the enemy for violation of the usages of civilized warfare; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

And on motion of Mr. Chilton,

The House resolved itself into open session.

SIXTY-FIFTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brown.

Mr. H. W. Bruce offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives meet to-morrow in, and during the remainder of the present session occupy, the Hall of the House of Delegates of the general assembly of the State of Virginia, and that seats for the members in said Hall be selected by lot, as they have been selected in this Hall.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 46
 } Nays ----- 35

Yeas: Arrington, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Elliott, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Simpson, Singleton, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Harris, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Boteler moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the papers relating to the claims of John McKown, Samuel McKown, and Mary C. Morgan be withdrawn from the files of the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the words

That the Committee on Claims furnish to John McKown, Samuel McKown, and Mary C. Morgan a copy of the papers now in possession of said committee, in relation to their claim or claims against the Government of the Confederate States of America.

Mr. Read demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Singleton moved to amend the same by adding thereto the following, to wit:

Provided, That the parties leave an authenticated copy of such papers with the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Read demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That any claims that may be presented to this House may at any time be withdrawn, provided true copies of the same be filed in their stead.

The Chair ruled that the amendment was not in order, on the ground that the resolution before the House, under a suspension of the rule, applied to an individual case, and it was not in order, in considering that case, to offer an amendment proposing to make a general rule.

Mr. Garland appealed from the decision of the Chair.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the question; which was ordered, and the resolution as amended was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Holt, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Gartrell, on account of pressing business.

Mr. Menees moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to present a memorial.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act to provide for continuing in service seamen and ordinary seamen now in the service of the Confederate States; and

An act to authorize the discharge of certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Boudinot moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce sundry bills.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Boudinot introduced

A bill to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in certain Indian nations;

which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Boudinot also introduced

A bill supplemental to an act to establish judicial courts in certain Indian Territories, approved February 15, 1862; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. McQueen, the rules were suspended to enable him to offer a resolution; and

Mr. McQueen offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House be authorized to employ temporary assistance, such clerks employed to be paid out of the contingent fund, upon order of the Committee on Accounts;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Batson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill explanatory of an act entitled "An act to authorize the President to accept and place in the service certain regiments and battalions heretofore raised," approved on the 11th day of October, 1862, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and the second section being under consideration, which is as follows, viz:

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the officers of the regiments and battalions aforesaid shall be chosen in the manner heretofore provided by law for the election of officers of regiments and battalions of volunteers,

Mr. Batson, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same as follows, to wit: Strike out all of the same and insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That said regiments and battalions shall have the right, within twenty days, on a day to be fixed by the commander of the brigade for that purpose, to elect such officers as volunteers have heretofore been authorized to elect: *Provided*, That this act shall not apply to any case where such office has heretofore been filled by election.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Read,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all commissioned and noncommissioned officers and private soldiers who may now be discharged or who may hereafter be discharged from service by reason of wounds or injuries received in the service of the Confederate States, or that may have been received in the service of any of the States comprising this Confederacy, whose services and troops have been recognized and received into the service of the Confederate States, and who shall have been declared, wholly or in part, disabled by wounds or injuries received in the service, so as to disable them from further service, or so as to render them unfit for labor, in whole or in part, shall be continued in pay from the date of their discharge, until the present war shall have been concluded by a treaty of peace, at the rate and manner as hereinafter declared.

SEC. 2. All persons claiming the benefit of this act, who have already been discharged, shall present themselves to a board of physicians, known as the examining board of the several States, and upon a certificate of any of said boards that the applicant is wholly disabled from labor, the person so applying shall be entitled to full pay at the same rate as is now allowed by law to troops in the field; except, however, that commutation of no kind shall be allowed to commissioned officers, who shall only be allowed pay per diem at the rates that they were receiving pay when discharged: *Provided further*, That all persons hereafter discharged for the reasons herein stated shall, upon the certificate of said board, be entitled to receive pay in the manner hereinbefore provided.

SEC. 3. Payments shall be made under this act semiannually, to wit, on the fourth day of March and fourth day of September of each year, which payment shall be made by any disbursing quartermaster, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War, whose duty it shall be to cause to be made out regulations for carrying into execution the provisions of this act,

Mr. Read moved to amend the first section thereof by striking out the words "by a treaty of peace."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Holt moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "injuries received" the words "or disease contracted."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "by reason of wounds or injuries received or disease contracted in the service of the Confederate States" and insert in lieu thereof the words "by reason of wounds and injuries received or disease contracted in the service of the Confederate States and in the line of his duty."

Mr. Breckinridge moved to amend the amendment by striking out therefrom the words "and in the line of his duty."

Mr. Holt moved that the bill and amendment be laid upon the table.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Menees demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the same section by adding thereto the following words, to wit:

Provided, That the officer, musician, or private has not heretofore received from the Government any office of pay or profit: *And provided further*, That on the appointment hereafter of any officer, musician, or private to any office of pay and profit, his pay under this act shall cease.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "may now be discharged" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "have been."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Read moved to amend the second section by striking out the word "pay" before the words "when discharged."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Read also moved to amend the same section by striking out the word "*further*," in the first proviso, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "That;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Read moved to amend the same section by striking out the words

Provided further, That all persons hereafter discharged for the reasons herein stated shall, upon the certificate of said board, be entitled to receive pay in the manner hereinbefore provided.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "pay per diem" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "half pay;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "who have already been discharged;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Welsh moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "at the same rate as is now allowed by law to troops in the field" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "at the rate to which he was entitled while in actual service in the field."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré moved to amend the second section by adding at the end thereof the following, to wit:

Provided further, That no person dis[charged] for the reasons herein stated shall be paid except in the event that he has no means of support, which shall be made to appear by the certificate of the county court or other parochial authority in which the disabled person resides.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the same section by striking out the word "half" before "disabled" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "partially."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Clark moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the motion by striking out the word "Judiciary" and inserting the words "the special committee of one from each State."

Mr. Hilton demanded the question; which was ordered.

The amendment to the motion was accepted by Mr. Clark, and the motion prevailed.

Mr. Royston called for the special order of business.

Mr. Davidson moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to move to postpone the special order of business.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the House will proceed, at two o'clock to-day, to draw for seats.

Mr. McDowell moved that the vote agreeing to the resolution to move into the Hall of the House of Delegates of Virginia be reconsidered.

Mr. Breekinridge moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "two o'clock to-day" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "forthwith."

Mr. Jones moved to amend the amendment by striking out the word "forthwith" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "three o'clock to-day."

Mr. Foster demanded the question: which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved that the vote agreeing to the resolution be reconsidered.

Mr. Curry moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved that the vote agreeing to the joint resolution of the Senate, authorizing the Postmaster-General to extend the time for receiving bids for transportation of the mails in the States therein named, be reconsidered.

The motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the third reading of the same was reconsidered, and

Mr. Chilton moved to amend by striking out thereof the words "first of June" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "first of May."

The amendment was agreed to, and the joint resolution as amended was read a third time and passed.

The House then proceeded to draw for seats under the resolution of Mr. Lyons, and the same is recorded as follows, to wit:

7 Arrington.	18 Baldwin.
20 Ashe.	56 Barksdale.
8 Atkins.	23 Batson.
78 Ayer.	113 Bell.

94 Boteler.	13 Holt.
49 Boyce.	97 Hyer.
68 Breckinridge.	53 Johnston.
27 Bridgers.	122 Jones, Delegate.
29 Bruce, E. M.	82 Jones [of Tennessee].
52 Bruce, Horatio W.	39 Kenan of Georgia.
50 Burnett.	33 Kenan of North Carolina.
118 Boudinot.	65 Kenner.
60 Chambers.	6 Lander.
85 Chambliss.	17 Lewis.
44 Chilton.	36 Lyon.
31 Chrisman.	132 Lyons.
51 Clapp.	22 Machen.
15 Clark.	121 Marshall.
96 Clopton.	86 Martin.
124 Collier.	99 McDowell.
42 Conrad.	66 McLean.
116 Conrow.	75 McQueen.
70 Cooke.	61 McRae.
90 Crockett.	32 Macwillie.
5 Currin.	71 Menees.
117 Curry.	69 Miles.
35 Dargan.	40 Miller.
64 Davidson.	81 Moore.
41 Davis.	83 Munnerlyn.
21 De Jarnette.	120 Perkins.
30 Dupré.	79 Preston.
89 Elliott.	119 Pugh.
74 Ewing.	59 Ralls.
16 Farrow.	43 Read.
93 Foote.	130 Royston.
57 Foster.	47 Russell.
84 Freeman.	62 Sexton.
80 Gaither.	112 Simpson.
58 Gardenhire.	114 Singleton.
91 Garland.	38 Smith of Alabama.
45 Garnett.	26 Smith of North Carolina.
92 Gartrell.	138 Smith of Virginia.
115 Gentry.	77 Staples.
34 Goode.	73 Strickland.
54 Graham.	76 Swan.
72 Gray.	131 Tibbs.
48 Hanly.	37 Trippe.
87 Harris.	24 Vest.
46 Hartridge.	25 Villeré.
63 Heiskell.	67 Welsh.
139 Herbert.	14 Wilcox.
28 Hilton.	55 Wright of Georgia.
98 Hodges.	95 Wright of Tennessee.
19 Holcombe.	123 Wright of Texas.

On motion of Mr. Preston,
The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTY-SIXTH DAY—THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Brown.

Mr. Chilton moved that the rules be suspended to allow a report to be made from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Clark, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to which was referred a bill of the Senate to be entitled "An act to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and the first section of the same being under consideration, which is as follows, to wit:

That the contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States shall be exempt from the performance of military duty in the armies of the Confederate States from and after the passage of this act: *Provided*, That no more than one contractor shall be exempt on any one route, and that no more than one member of any firm of contractors shall be exempt, and if one or more members of any such firm be exempt, from age or other cause, from the performance of military duty, the other member or members of such firm shall not be exempt by this act on account of being mail contractors: *And provided further*, That no person to whom a contract for carrying the mails may be transferred, with the consent of the Post-Office Department, after the passage of this act, shall be exempt from military service on that account,

Mr. Clark, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by inserting after the words "shall be exempt on any one route, and" the words "and that the mail route be ten or more miles in length, and."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gardenhire moved that the vote agreeing to the amendment be reconsidered.

Mr. Garland demanded the question: which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Davidson offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Doorkeeper be authorized to employ an assistant, to be paid out of the contingent fund, upon order of the Committee on Accounts;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina presented the memorial of W. J. Green, praying reimbursement for property lost in the service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina also introduced

A bill in reference to the enlistment of minors under the age of eighteen years and for their discharge; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina also offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the House whether the requirements of the fifth section of the act entitled "An act to better provide for the sick and wounded of the Army in hospitals," approved September twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, have been complied with; and, if so, the number and location of those within and near the city of Richmond which have been respectively assigned to the several States, and the names and places where appointed of the surgeons and assistant surgeons assigned and doing service at each; and if said requirements have not been carried out, the reasons for such delay;

which was read and agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina also introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved (the Senate concurring), That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall adjourn their respective Houses, sine die, on Monday, twentieth April, at twelve o'clock meridian.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 46
Nays ----- 21 [22]

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Gardenhire, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davis, Elliott, Foster, Garland, Hanly, Jones, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved that the vote agreeing to the resolution be reconsidered.

Mr. Garland moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Perkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 43
Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davidson, Elliott, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Harris, Heiskell, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion to lay the motion to reconsider on the table was lost.

Mr. Curry demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 43
 } Nays ----- 45

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Harris, Herbert, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Garnett moved that the House take a recess, each day, from 3 o'clock to 7.30 p. m.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 54
 } Nays ----- 32

Yeas: Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garnett, Goode, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lander, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Chambliss, Conrad, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Johnston, Jones, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was agreed to.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was a bill of the Senate defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States.

Mr. McDowell demanded the question; which was on the indefinite postponement of the bill and amendment.

The question was ordered, and

Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were not ordered, and the motion to postpone the bill indefinitely was lost.

Mr. Dupré moved that the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading be reconsidered.

of Alabama, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the House refused to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Mr. Crockett demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Davis demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 47
 } Nays 42

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Barksdale, Batson, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Machen, McLean, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Garnett demanded the question; which was on the passage of the bill.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Pugh demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 39
 } Nays 48

Yeas: Barksdale, Batson, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Machen, McLean, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was lost.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to employ the best pilots for service in the Confederate Marine;

An act to change the title of engineers in the Navy;

An act to authorize the appointment of a register and an additional clerk and a draftsman for the Navy Department; and

An act to fix the rank of officers [in the military and naval service] of the Confederate States holding commissions under the Provisional Government when reappointed to offices of the same grade under the Permanent Government.

Messages were received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which are as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 4. An act to regulate the action of the Secretary of the Navy upon the decisions of naval general courts-martial;

S. 14. An act to authorize newspapers to be mailed to soldiers free of postage;

S. 45. An act to amend an act entitled "An act for the establishment and organization of the Army of the Confederate States of America;"

S. 73. An act to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war;

S. 78. An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave;

S. 98. An act in relation to the public printing; and

S. 104. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to appoint clerks to the commandant and quartermaster of the Marine Corps;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 7. An act to prohibit the punishment of soldiers by whipping;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to appoint clerks to the commandant and quartermaster of the Marine Corps;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act in relation to the public printing;" which was read the first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Barksdale, the rule requiring a reference of the bill to a committee was suspended, and the bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Public Printer shall receive the following compensation for all work ordered by either House of Congress, or any Department of the Government, from this, the twenty-sixth day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to wit: For composition, one dollar and twenty-five cents per one thousand ems; for presswork, folding, and stitching, one dollar and twenty-five cents per token; for all strictly rule-and-figure work the pay for composition shall be two dollars and fifty cents per one thousand ems,

-Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That the first, second, and third clauses of the seventh section of the act of the Provisional Congress entitled "An act in relation to the public printing," approved February twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, be, and the same are hereby, repealed, and that the prices allowed for all kind of printing shall be as follows: For composition, any size of type, under and including pica, plain, per one thousand ems, one dollar and twenty-five cents; strictly rule and rule and figure, per one thousand ems, two dollars and fifty cents; for presswork, including folding and stitching, per token of two hundred and fifty impressions, or fraction of such token, one dollar and twenty-five cents.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the fourth section of the act of the Provisional Congress entitled "An act to organize further the Bureau of Superintendent of Public Printing," approved May fourteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, be so amended as to provide that it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Printing, so far as he may be able, to purchase paper to do all the printing ordered by Congress or either one of the Executive Departments, and writing paper and envelopes used by Congress or the Executive Departments, the said writing paper and envelopes to be furnished to Congress or either one of the Executive Departments, upon a requisition from the Secretary of the Senate, Clerk of the House, or the head of either one of said Departments, or the chief officer of either one of the several bureaus connected with said Departments: *Provided*, That said purchases of paper shall be approved by the Attorney-General.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the eighth section of the act of the Provisional Congress entitled "An act in relation to the public printing," approved February twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, be so amended as to require the chief officers of the Executive Departments to contract for all necessary ruling and binding in connection with their several offices, the said contract to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder: *Provided*, That the said ruling and binding shall be ordered through and superintended by the Superintendent of Public Printing: *And provided further*, That the increase of prices for the public printing fixed by the provisions of this act shall cease on the declaration of peace between the Confederate States and the United States.

Pending the consideration of which,

The House took a recess until 7.30 o'clock;

And having met pursuant to adjournment,

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment by adding thereto the following, to wit:

Provided further, That this act shall not be understood to apply to any existing contract, or to increase the price of any work already ordered to be done by the Public Printer.

Mr. Atkins moved to lay the amendment to the amendment upon the table.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	33
Nays	38

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clark, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clifton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Garland, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, McQueen, Mences, Miles, Moore, Munterlyn, Perkins, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippé, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Conrad modified his amendment by striking out thereof the words "ordered to be."

Mr. Garland demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The question being on the amendment as amended,

Mr. Machen moved that he be excused from voting.

The motion was lost.

The amendment as amended was agreed to.

The bill was read a third time.

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which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Miles presented the memorial of the clerks in the Richmond arsenal, praying an increase of compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, without being read.

Mr. Farrow introduced

A bill to regulate furloughs and discharges in hospitals; which was read first and second times, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on the Medical Department.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause this House to be informed whether or not any special efforts have been made to obtain the release from confinement of Surgeon Joseph E. Dixon, of the Ninth Battalion of Tennessee Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel George Gantt, Surgeon Dixon being now in close confinement in the military prison of Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, in the State of Ohio, and that the letter of Surgeon Dixon and that of General John W. Dunnington, herewith presented, be transmitted to the President for his consideration, with a view to facilitating such action in the case as may secure the early release of Surgeon Dixon from his present state of captivity.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That a joint committee be appointed, to be composed of members of the Senate and three members of the House, whose duty it shall be, in the recess of Congress now approaching, to make diligent inquiry for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability of selecting a suitable site for the permanent location of the capitol of the Confederate States, and that said committee do report their action herein to Congress at its next session.

On motion of Mr. Conrad, the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Swan offered the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the act of Congress approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, providing for an increase of the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments, does include the clerks of standing committees of the House, employed by order of the House at the time of the passage thereof, and that the Clerk of this House be directed to pay them accordingly.

On motion of Mr. Perkins, the resolution was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Swan also introduced

Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. J. L. Brent and the officers and soldiers under his command for their gallantry in capturing the Federal gunboat Indianola; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Menees presented the memorial of certain clerks in the Richmond post-office, praying an increase of compensation; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish to this House the report of General G. B. Crittenden of the battle of Fishing Creek, and the report of Colonel Preston Smith, acting brigadier-general, of the operations of the forces under his command at the battle of Richmond, Kentucky, of the thirtieth of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

Mr. Wilcox introduced

A bill to admit duty free the machinery of the Comal Manufacturing Company;

which was read first and second times and referred, on motion of Mr. Perkins, to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Gray offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire into the expediency of increasing the export duty on cotton and of levying such a duty on tobacco and other articles of export. And also into the probable necessity of providing for the security of the currency of the Government by declaring that at some future period, to be fixed after reasonable notice, the said duties and also imposts and taxes, except those levied at the present session of Congress, shall be made payable only in certificates or coupons for interest on the funded stocks or bonds of the Confederate States, or in specie.

Mr. Graham introduced

A bill to provide a compensation for the disbursing officers of the several Executive Departments;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Sexton offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire into the expediency of so amending the Army Regulations as to provide that quartermasters on duty at the capital of the Confederate States shall render their accounts to the Quartermaster-General monthly, and shall not be allowed to make a requisition for funds for use for a longer period than one month from the date of the requisition, and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Herbert offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That a special committee of five be appointed to inquire into and report to this House as early as practicable—

First. What punishment, if any, in violation of law has been inflicted upon prisoners confined in Castle Thunder; the kind and character of the punishment inflicted by the officers of the prison.

Second. How many have been killed, by whom, and the circumstances under which they were killed.

Third. The committee have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Gray introduced

A bill supplementary to an act to prohibit the exportation of cotton from the Confederate States, except through the seaports of said States, and to punish persons offending therein, approved May 21, 1861, and to an act to extend the provisions of said act, approved August 2, 1861;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The Chair presented the petition of sundry citizens of Lunenburg County, Va., praying the establishment of a new post route; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Also, the petition of Judith Fox, Thomas Fox, Richard Fox, and Martha Ann Fox, asking exemption under the sequestration law; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

Also, the petition of Benjamin Hunter, asking compensation for slave lost on public works; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire into the expediency of so amending the act organizing the Treasury Department as to allow the clerks of said Department to hold State or Confederate stocks.

Also, the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of providing veterinary surgeons for the cavalry.

Also, the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to report to this House as soon as practicable the amount of Treasury notes not bearing interest issued from and received at the Treasury Department during the months of January, February, and March, severally, and also the amount now outstanding.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the consideration of the business on the General Calendar was postponed in order to conclude the call of the States.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether the governor of Virginia has communicated to him certain acts of the general assembly of Virginia, passed October third, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and March thirteenth and March thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, concerning the draft or impressment of slaves into the service of the Confederate States, at the request of the President, made to the said governor, whether the said acts provide that the Confederate States shall pay for such slaves or for injury done them in certain cases, and that any request for slaves made by the President on the governor shall be regarded as an assent to, and acceptance of, the provisions of the said acts; whether any slaves have been called for and accepted under authority of said acts; and, if so, whether the Government has paid or holds itself ready to pay for loss of, or injury to, such slaves.

Mr. Boteler presented the memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel Carter in reference to payment for horses lost in the public service; which was referred to the [Committee on] Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, without being read.

Mr. Collier presented a device for a seal; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Collier offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the communication and accompanying documents from the Attorney-General, of date of the thirteenth of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, laid on the table by order of the House, be taken up and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was read and agreed to, to wit:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether Generals Lee and Jackson have made reports of the battles which have been fought by the troops under their commands, respectively.

Mr. Lyons offered

Joint resolution for the relief of the sufferers by the explosion of the Confederate States laboratory; which was read first and second times.

Mr. Lyons moved to suspend the rule requiring its reference to a committee.

The motion was lost, and the joint resolution was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Goode,

The House took up from the table for consideration

A bill to increase the pay of each noncommissioned officer and private in the Army of the Confederate States.

Mr. Davidson called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being on the passage of the same,

Mr. Davidson demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Chambers moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Chambers introduced

Joint resolution of thanks to Brigadier-General Forrest and to the officers and men under his command;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Dupré moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a bill.

The motion did not prevail.

Mr. Wright of Georgia moved to suspend the rules to enable him to take up from the table a bill.

The motion prevailed, and

On motion of Mr. Wright,

A bill to reorganize and promote the efficiency of the medical branch of the military service

was taken up and made the special order for Tuesday next.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the consideration of the business on the General Calendar was further postponed, and

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the call of the States was suspended.

Mr. Heiskell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A resolution of inquiry as to the mode of holding elections in States occupied by the enemy, for Representatives in the next Congress,

reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by forces of the enemy;

which was read first and second times, ordered to be printed, and made the special order for Monday next, and from day to day thereafter until disposed of.

Mr. Heiskell, from the same committee, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to punish forgery and counterfeiting;

which was read first and second times.

And the question being upon postponing the further consideration of the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion did not prevail.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That no person shall falsely forge, counterfeit, or make any counterfeit resemblance or imitation of, or anything purporting to be, the great seal of the Confederate States of America, or of the seal of any department, office, or functionary thereof, authorized by law to keep or have a seal.

SEC. 2. No person shall begin to make any such forged or counterfeit resemblance or imitation, or procure the same to be done, or aid in the same, or fraudulently have

in possession, or conceal, or aid in concealing, or procure others to conceal or keep, such forged seal, or any instrument, die, blank, or piece of metal, or other material intended to be used in the preparation of such seal.

SEC. 3. No person shall fraudulently forge or counterfeit any paper in imitation of, or purporting to be, an office paper or record of, or paper issued from, any department, office, court, or functionary of the Confederate States.

SEC. 4. No person shall begin to forge or counterfeit, or be concerned in forging or counterfeiting, any such paper, or make or prepare, or begin to make or prepare, any plate, die, instrument, or material intended for the making or preparation of such paper, or procure the same to be done, or knowingly aid in the same, or fraudulently have in possession, conceal, or aid in concealing, or procure others to conceal or keep, any such paper, plate, die, instrument, or material, whether complete or otherwise.

SEC. 5. No person shall fraudulently fix or make the impression of any such counterfeit seal, or of any such genuine seal, on any such paper, or on any paper or material intended to be used in the preparation of such paper.

SEC. 6. No person shall fraudulently fill up, or sign, or alter any genuine impression or print of any office paper, record, or paper authorized by law to be issued by any department, office, or functionary of the Confederate States.

SEC. 7. No person shall fraudulently have in possession, or conceal, or aid in concealing, or procure another to keep or conceal, any impression or print of any genuine plate or engraving provided under authority of law for the issuance of any paper authorized by law to be issued from any department, office, or functionary of the Confederate States, or any genuine plate, stamp, or die provided by the Government, or any department, office, or functionary of said Confederate States for the issuance of such paper.

SEC. 8. No person shall fraudulently forge or counterfeit any assignment, or indorsement, or signature of any person interested in any such paper, to the prejudice of the right of such person interested.

SEC. 9. No person shall knowingly pass, utter, or publish, or attempt to pass, utter, or publish, or be concerned in passing, uttering, or publishing any such paper.

SEC. 10. Whoever shall commit either of the foregoing offenses shall be imprisoned at hard labor not less than three nor more than fifteen years, and be fined in a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars.

SEC. 11. The provisions of this act shall apply to all seals, instruments, and papers which may hereafter be authorized by law, as well as those provided for by existing laws.

SEC. 12. All provisions in any former law inconsistent with the provisions of this act are repealed, excepting the twenty-first section of the act of the Provisional Congress, approved August nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, entitled "An act to authorize the issue of Treasury notes, and to provide a war tax for their redemption," and said section is hereby declared to be in force and apply to all issues of Treasury notes, as well as those provided for in any prior or subsequent act, as in the act aforesaid.

SEC. 13. All offenses provided for in any former act which may be repealed or modified by this act shall be punished according to the law in force at the time of the commission of the offense in the same manner as if this act had not been passed,

Mr. Conrad moved to amend by striking out the word "falsely," in section 1.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend by inserting the word "fraudulently" before the word "begins," in section 2.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved further to amend by inserting the word "fraudulently" before the word "begin," in section 4.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved further to amend by inserting the word "fraudulently" before the word "forging," in the same section.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend by striking out, wherever it occurs in section 7, the word "issuance" and to insert in lieu thereof the word "issue."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Moore called the previous question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed as amended, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Holcombe, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to secure copyrights to authors and composers.

And the bill having been taken up for consideration,

Mr. Machen moved to amend the same by striking out the second section; which is as follows, to wit:

Any author, composer, or designer who is a citizen of one of the Confederate States and loyal to the Government thereof, and who has any interest in the form of a percentage on the sales or otherwise in the copyright obtained under the laws of the United States and owned by an alien enemy, shall have all the rights, privileges, and remedies of the owner thereof, under the conditions and restrictions provided for in the preceding section of this act.

The amendment was lost, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Holcombe, from the same committee, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to provide just compensation for cases of past impressment; which was read first and second times.

And the question upon postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar being negatived,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War, without delay, to cause to be detailed for each military district or department one or more suitable officers, to adjust and settle all claims justly arising from past impressments of private property for the use of the Army, upon the principles and according to the rules established by an act passed the present session entitled "An act to regulate impressments;" and the commissioners appointed under that act are authorized to assess just compensation by a fixed schedule of prices in all cases in which the property impressed was, at the time of the seizure, the property of any other than a person who had grown, raised, or produced the same, or who held or had purchased the same for his own use or consumption and not for sale or speculation,

Mr. Chilton moved to amend by inserting the word "appointed" before the word "detailed."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved further to amend by inserting the words "persons or."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Collier moved to amend by inserting after the words "raised or produced" the words "or manufactured."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Machen moved to amend by adding the following proviso, to wit:

Provided, That nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the agents so appointed to reconsider the question of just compensation in any case where payment has already been made according to scale of prices arranged by the War Department, under which property was impressed.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 85. An act to establish a preferred mail across the Mississippi River.

They have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 15. An act for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, and for other purposes;

Messrs. Herbert of Texas, Smith of Alabama, De Jarnette of Virginia, Clark of Georgia, and Simpson of South Carolina.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to establish a preferred mail across the Mississippi River;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The Chair also presented a bill of the House entitled "An act for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, and for other purposes," returned from the Senate with sundry amendments; which were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Harris, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill entitled "An act to provide for the relief of officers and soldiers who have been irregularly introduced into the military service of the Confederate States,"

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved that the further consideration of the bill be postponed until to-morrow morning.

The motion was lost.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Swan moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a joint resolution.

Upon which Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 39
 { Nays----- 32

Yeas: Baldwin, Boteler, Breekinridge, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Currin, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Kenan of Georgia, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Ralls, Read, Simpson, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Garnett, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyons, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, and Villeré.

Two-thirds of the members present not voting in the affirmative, the motion was lost.

Mr. Machen moved that the House reconsider the vote by which a bill was passed entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Menees moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a bill.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved that the consideration of sundry messages of the President, vetoing bills, be made the special order of business for Thursday next; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Currin, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Gardenhire, on account of urgent business.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have refused to concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 97) to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service, ask a conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Messrs. Oldham, Yancey, and Mitchel as managers at the same on their part.

Mr. Chilton moved that the House insist on its amendment and agree to the committee of conference proposed by the Senate.

Mr. Atkins moved that the House recede from its amendment.

Mr. Boyce moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yea	30
Nay	46

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Collier, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Foote, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Jones, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, Miles, Preston, Royston, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

So the House refused to recede from its amendment.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Chilton,

The same was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Heiskell,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy.

Mr. Conrad moved a suspension of the rules, in order to enable him to move a postponement of all business until after the conclusion of the call of the committees.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Holcombe moved that the further consideration of the special order be postponed.

The motion was lost.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in the States of Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Virginia, and Tennessee, and in any other States in which more than one-third of the number of Congressional districts, or a majority of the counties composing such districts, respectively, are, at this time, within the lines of the public enemy, or occupied and held by them, or in which the governor thereof, by proclamation, shall hereafter declare that more than one-third of*

such districts or a majority of the counties composing such districts are so held, at a time preceding an election for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States, and not exceeding sixty days, nor less than forty days, before the same; such elections for Representatives shall be by general ticket for such States, and each voter shall be entitled to vote one ticket containing the names of one person from each Congressional district in such State; and the persons in each district receiving the greatest number of votes of the whole vote of the State shall be commissioned as Representatives by the governor of such State.

SEC. 2. Such elections shall be held in all States, wherein no provision exists by law fixing the time for holding the same, on the first Wednesday in November next, and in each second year thereafter during the war.

SEC. 3. Such elections shall be so held by the officers, authorities, or persons appointed or provided by the laws of the several States for the purpose of holding such elections and at the places so provided, or, if no provision has been made or shall be made therefor, then by the State authority, officers, or persons who at the time are authorized to hold elections for members of the most numerous branch of the State legislature.

SEC. 4. Such elections shall be conducted according to the mode prescribed by the laws of the several States, except so far as the same are modified by this act.

SEC. 5. In such elections every citizen of the Confederate States who has not forfeited his citizenship by electing to adhere to the Government of the United States, who shall be qualified to vote for a member of the most numerous branch of the State legislature of the State wherein he resides, shall be entitled to vote at the place or places in his State at which he would be entitled to vote in an election for such member of such legislature.

SEC. 6. But in case such citizen shall be in the military service of the Confederate States, or in case he shall be driven from his home by the occupation of his country by the public enemy, or by the movements of his troops, or in case the elections can not be held at the usual places of holding the same, by reason of such occupation or movements, then such citizen shall be allowed to vote at any place of voting in such State, or in the camps of the Army, as provided for by the laws of such State, or as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 7. In every such case, if the State governments have failed to provide for elections to be held in the camps of the Army, such elections for Representatives shall be held therein as follows: In every army corps, division, or command the colonel of each regiment, or other officer in command thereof, or the officer in command of any less body on detached service, shall appoint two judges and three clerks to open and hold such election, who shall hold the same, and make out the poll books and returns, under the same rules and regulations as if the same were opened and held at the usual place of holding the same in the State from which such regiment or command came, and shall allow all persons entitled to vote therein.

SEC. 8. The returns of such elections in camps shall be forwarded by the several commanding officers, appointing the judges and clerks as aforesaid, to the highest officer in grade, and the senior of the grade from the State for which the same is held in the encampment or army in which the same is held, whose duty it shall be at once to forward the same to the governor of the State; or the same may be, if more convenient, forwarded by such commanding officer directly to the governor.

SEC. 9. In case the exigencies of the public service prevent the holding of the elections in any camp, under this act or under any State law passed for that purpose, at the time provided by law, the same may be held at any time within ten days after the preventing cause may cease; the time for holding the same to be fixed by the officer authorized to appoint the judges and clerks.

SEC. 10. Such officer shall be authorized to administer the proper oaths to the judges and clerks, or they may administer the same to each other.

SEC. 11. Every person concerned in holding such election in any State or camp shall take an oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States and to discharge his duty in holding such election faithfully and impartially.

SEC. 12. In the event that any such State has, by law, provided for holding such election under the circumstances herein specified, either by temporary act, which has expired, or by acts now in force, such election shall be held according to the provisions of such temporary or permanent act.

Mr. Marshall moved to amend the same by striking out the whole of the first section thereof, after the enacting clause, and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That in the States of Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee the Representatives to Congress shall be chosen, until the legislatures thereof shall otherwise provide, by

Yeas: Baldwin, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett,

Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, Marshall, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hilton, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Mencees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

On motion of Mr. Chambers,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTY-NINTH DAY—TUESDAY APRIL 7, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Edwards.

On motion, leave was granted to Messrs. Hanly and Chambers to change their votes upon the amendment offered by Mr. Curry to the first section of the act providing for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy, and upon the reconsideration of the same.

On motion of Mr. Atkins, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Tibbs, on account of business.

The Chair announced Messrs. Chilton of Alabama, Holt of Georgia, and Atkins of Tennessee as managers on the part of the House at the conference proposed by the Senate, upon a bill to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, leave of absence was granted to Mr. McDowell, on account of urgent business.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to alter and amend an act for the sequestration of estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States,' approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Chair also laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

To the Senate of the Confederate States:

I regret that a sense of duty compels me to return to you, with my objections, an act which originated in the Senate, entitled "An act to increase the strength and efficiency of heavy artillery for seacoast defense."

This act selects from the Provisional Army a particular regiment, known as the First Regiment of South Carolina Infantry, and directs that it shall hereafter be known as the Second Regiment of South Carolina Artillery, and shall have the same organization as is now allowed by law to the First Regiment of South Carolina Artillery.

It next directs that the First and Second regiments of South Carolina Artillery

shall be increased to twelve companies each, and that the complement of a company shall be one hundred and twenty-five enlisted men.

The objections entertained to these provisions are grave, and I submit them as succinctly as possible.

I. The organization of artillery into regiments is subject to great inconvenience, and impairs the efficiency of that important arm of the service.

Both in the Regular and the Provisional Army the organization of the artillery is a corps, composed of batteries, the commander of a battery being a captain and the men being formed into companies. This organization applies to both heavy or siege and field artillery, and experience has shown it to be more efficient than the organization into regiments. Under the law as it now exists the exact number of batteries required at any point can be ordered there, and an officer of such rank as is appropriate to the number of guns is assigned to their command. It is thus in the power of commanders to assign officers to the duties for which they are most competent, some having greater merit in heavy and others in light artillery. The system has worked exceedingly well, and I should greatly regret to see it changed or impaired by exceptions. If the organization by regiments be better, it ought to be adopted for the whole artillery service. If not, why should the exceptions to a good system be increased in number?

Where the organization is uniform throughout the service the troops are better satisfied and the administration of the Army is much more easy and efficient. Where there are exceptions there is constant effort on the part of the men to change from one organization to another, discontent is engendered, and embarrassments arise in administration.

It rarely occurs that the service of artillery is required at one point to the number of ten or twelve companies. The exigencies of the service will require that these regiments (if organized as contemplated in the bill now returned to you) shall be broken into detachments, and the field officers, in such event, would be in command of fractions not proportional to their rank.

The First Regiment of South Carolina Artillery was organized by the State before the formation of the Confederacy, and when it was transferred to this Government it was necessarily accepted with the existing organization; but that organization was exceptional and objectionable for the reasons already stated. It has been retained in Fort Sumter, which is one of the points where such an organization is least detrimental to the service, but no satisfactory reason is perceived for augmenting the number of companies of which it is composed or for the organization of another regiment.

The First Regiment of South Carolina Infantry, or a part of it, I am informed, has been assigned to duty and has received instruction in the artillery service, and can be so employed without the passage of the act in question as long as the exigencies of the service may require. It still remains, however, infantry, and could in case of necessity be used as such in the field. If the act should become a law, this advantage would be lost without any apparent compensating benefit.

II. The act seems to me objectionable as being special legislation.

It is well known that the artillery service is very generally preferred by our troops to infantry service. It is believed that there would be little difficulty now in raising a regiment of artillerists from citizens exempt from conscription, while such is not the case with infantry. If the example be once set of converting regiments of infantry into artillery, it needs little foresight to predict that Congress will be beset with applications for such change from regiments now serving as infantry, and claims will be put forward for equal favors in each of the States. Wherever siege artillery is required the delegations from the different States will naturally expect and apply for a grant of the same favor to some infantry regiment from their State, and this result would be far from conducive to the discipline of the Army and the good of the service.

There are now numbers of our citizens who, after having volunteered in the infantry, have been found too feeble in constitution to withstand the fatigue and exhaustion of the rapid movements on which the success of our military operations depends. Such soldiers would deem it a great favor to be transferred to the service of heavy artillery, for which they would be well fitted, and their claims for this favorite service appear to me better founded than those of the enlisted men of the infantry regiment designated in the act.

If the purpose of the act be, as it apparently is, to provide for twenty-four companies of artillerists to serve together, the command of these companies would be of sufficient importance to require the appointment of a brigadier-general to command them; and it is feared that such special legislation, without apparent necessity, for one State would be made the precedent for similar demands from other States, thus

leading to consequences which did not, perhaps, suggest themselves to Congress when the bill received its assent.

III. It is finally suggested for the consideration of Congress whether some of the provisions of this bill are not equivalent to the exercise of Executive functions by the legislative department of the Government, and therefore an infringement of the principles of the Constitution which so carefully separate the duties of these different departments.

Congress has power to "make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces" as well as to "raise armies."

Under these powers Congress could undoubtedly order the raising of regiments of artillery for seacoast defense, and by change of organization direct that a certain number of regiments of infantry be converted into artillery. But such is not the bill under discussion. Congress, in that bill, orders a specified regiment to be employed for seacoast defense.

If this be a legitimate exercise of legislative power, Congress can, of course, select other regiments and order them to the defense of the Indian country, and select, again, other regiments and order them to be sent to the Tennessee, the Virginia, or the Texan frontier.

Such orders seem to me purely executive. They have hitherto been made through the Adjutant-General of the Army, and it requires but little reflection to perceive that the exercise of such powers by Congress withdraws from the Executive the authority indispensable to the fulfillment of his functions as Commander in Chief.

These reasons have appeared to my mind decisive of the question, and I therefore respectfully return them to the Senate as those which have prevented my approval of the act, which is also herewith returned.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 31, 1863.*

On motion of Mr. Miles, the bill returned by the President was taken up for consideration.

And the question being,

Shall the bill become a law, the reasons of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?

The yeas and nays were recorded, as required by the Constitution,

And are as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas	22
	{ Nays	59

Yeas: Bell, Boyce, Chambliss, Clark, Conrad, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Hilton, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miller, Moore, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was lost.

On motion of Mr. Wright of Georgia, a bill to reorganize and promote the efficiency of the Medical Department of the Army was taken up and made the special order for Friday next.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 10. An act to allow minors to hold commissions in the Army.

They have also passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 62. An act to pay officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates not legally mustered into the service of the Confederate States for services actually performed; and

S. 94. An act to establish the form of fifty-cent Treasury notes;
In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred sundry amendments of the Senate to a bill of the House entitled "An act to prohibit the punishment of soldiers by whipping," reported the same back, with the recommendation that they be concurred in with an amendment.

The amendments of the Senate having been read as follows, to wit:

Insert after the words "court-martial" the words "or military court."

Insert the following independent section:

"SEC. 2. That article twenty of the Articles of War be so amended as to read as follows:

"'All officers and soldiers who have received pay or have been duly enlisted in the service of the Confederate States, and shall be convicted of having deserted the same, shall suffer death, or confinement in a penitentiary with or without hard labor for a period not less than one year or more than five, or such other punishment as the court-martial or military court may determine.'"

The first amendment of the Senate was agreed to.

The question being on the second amendment,

The committee moved to amend the same by inserting after the word "punishment" the words "not inconsistent with the provisions of this act."

Mr. Baldwin moved to lay the amendment to the amendment upon the table.

The motion was lost.

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to, and the amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill to amend an act to provide for an increase of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, approved February 15, 1862, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the act entitled "An act to provide for an increase of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments," approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, be, and the same is hereby, amended by striking out the proviso at the end of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "Provided, That no quartermaster, assistant quartermaster, commissary, or assistant commissary be authorized to employ as a clerk any one liable to military service, and the commanding officer of quartermasters, assistant quartermasters, commissaries, or assistant commissaries may detail from the ranks under his command such person or persons as may be necessary for service in the offices of said quartermasters, assistant quartermasters, commissaries, or assistant commissaries,"

Mr. Welsh moved to amend the same by adding thereto the following proviso, to wit:

Provided, That only disabled soldiers shall be so detailed where one can be found for such service.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Hilton moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Batson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

An act to provide for the compensation of persons employed by commanding generals as provost-marshals from civil life, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The consideration of bill and amendment was postponed, and the same were placed upon the Calendar.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the first section by striking out thereof the word "Virginia."

Mr. Foster demanded the question: which was ordered.

Mr. Boteler demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 66
Nays 14

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Currin, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippé, Vest, Villere, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Ewing, Gaither, Heiskell, Hodge, Kenner, Moore, Swan, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the same section by striking out therefrom the word "Louisiana."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "and in any other States" the words "except the State of Virginia."

The amendment was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 2d instant, approve and sign bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 51. An act to alter and amend an act entitled "An act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," approved August 30, 1861, and an act altering and amending the same, approved on the 15th day of February, 1862;

S. 48. An act to authorize the discharge of certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States;

S. 12. An act to provide for continuing in service seamen and ordinary seamen now in the service of the Confederate States.

On the 4th instant, the President approved and signed the following bills, viz:

S. 60. An act to authorize the appointment of a register and an additional clerk and a draftsman for the Navy Department;

S. 49. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to employ the best pilots for service in the Confederate Marine; and

S. 25. An act to change the title of engineers in the Navy.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Marshall by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

When during the continuance of the present war it shall be impracticable to hold an election for Representatives in the Confederate Congress in any one of the Confederate States by reason of the presence or proximity of the public enemy, or if such State shall, by the laws thereof, be divided into separate Congressional districts, and it shall be impracticable to hold an election as aforesaid in one-third the number of such districts, or in a majority of the counties composing such districts, which fact may be ascertained and determined by the proclamation of the governor of such State, issued not more than sixty days and not less than forty before the usual time of holding an election therein for Representatives in Congress, it shall be lawful to hold such election at such places as are or shall be designated by the laws of said State at which it may be practicable to hold the same, and at such places to elect the whole number of Representatives to which such State is entitled, either by general ticket or by such other method as is prescribed or may be prescribed by the laws of such State.

Mr. Clopton moved that the bill and amendments be laid upon the table.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the first section by striking out the letter "s" from the word "States" after the words "in any other."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the same by inserting after the words "except Virginia" the words "North Carolina."

The amendment was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Holt, the rule was suspended to enable him to make a motion to amend the rule in relation to the recess of the House.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Holt moved that the House take a daily recess from half past 3 until 8 o'clock p. m.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the motion by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof "that the House will adjourn daily at 4 o'clock."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof and inserting the words "that for the remainder of the session the House will meet at 10 o'clock a. m. and adjourn at 4 o'clock p. m."

Mr. Swan demanded the previous question.

The previous question was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. McLean demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas..... 42
Nays 32

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Gray, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Marshall, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Swan, Vest, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Chambers, Chambliss, Con-

row, Currin, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Preston, Read, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion prevailed.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Clapp to the amendment of Mr. Marshall,

On motion of Mr. Heiskell, the same was laid upon the table.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was not ordered.

Mr. Machen moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

The hour of half past 3 having arrived,

The House, under the rule, took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having again met,

Mr. Chilton moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to report sundry bills from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Garnett demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yeas	56
Nays	3

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davis, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Garnett, Goode, and Mr. Speaker.

So the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to authorize an increase of the compensation of route agents and to increase the per diem allowance to special agents of the Post-Office Department," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question; which was ordered, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the Clerk was directed to report the bill immediately to the Senate.

Mr. Chilton also, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to establish a preferred mail across the Mississippi River," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, Rule 42 was suspended, and the Clerk was directed to report the bill immediately to the Senate.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend the first section by striking out thereof the words

and in any other State in which more than one-third of the number of Congressional districts, or a majority of the counties composing such districts, respectively.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Marshall by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:^a

The amendment was accepted by Mr. Marshall.

Mr. Holt moved to lay the bill and amendments upon the table.

Mr. Vest demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas..... 33
Nays 37

Yeas: Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Chambers, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davis, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, Machep, Marshall, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Read, Sexton, Singleton, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Foster demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Chambers was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendments be postponed until the second Monday of the next session.*

Mr. Jones demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas..... 43
Nays 26

Yeas: Bridgers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Garland, Graham, Heiskell, Hodge, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Singleton, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Swan moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the motion to postpone was agreed to.

Mr. Trippe moved that the House do now adjourn.

^a The amendment is not recorded in the Journal.

The motion was lost.
 Mr. Gray demanded the question; which was on the motion to reconsider.
 The question was ordered.
 Mr. Swan moved a reconsideration of the vote ordering the question.
 Mr. Menees moved that the House do now adjourn.
 The motion was lost.
 The motion to reconsider the call of the question was lost, and the question recurring on the motion to reconsider the motion to postpone,
 Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;
 Which were ordered,
 And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 31
 { Nays----- 30
 Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Courow, Currin, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Garland, Graham, Heiskell, Johnston, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Ralls, Read, Singleton, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.
 Nays: Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Welsh, and Wilcox.
 So the motion prevailed.
 On motion of Mr. Harris,
 The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SEVENTIETH DAY—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Edwards.
 On motion of Mr. McQueen, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Miles, on account of urgent business.
 The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was
 A bill to provide just compensation for past impressments.
 Mr. Russell moved to postpone the further consideration of the same.
 The motion was lost.
 Mr. Munnerlyn moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to, and
 Mr. Munnerlyn, from the Committee on Claims, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act for the relief of the Brunswick and Albany Railroad Company, of the State of Georgia," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.
 The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,
 It was decided in the negative.
 The bill was taken up, read a third time, and passed.
 Mr. Chambliss moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to report a bill from the Committee on Naval Affairs; which was agreed to, and

Mr. Chambliss, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to distribute bounty granted as a reward to the officers and men serving on board the Virginia, the Patrick Henry, the Jamestown, the Raleigh, the Beaufort, and the Teazer, for their gallantry and courage in the naval engagement with the enemy's vessels in Hampton Roads, on the eighth and ninth of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;"

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up and read a third time.

On motion of Mr. Conrad, the bill was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Barksdale, the rules were further suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Printing, and

Mr. Barksdale, from the Committee on Printing, to which was referred a Senate bill (No. 41) to amend the several acts prescribing the mode of publishing the laws and resolutions of the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on the postponement and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That it shall be the duty of the Attorney-General to select from the laws and resolutions of the present and future sessions of the Congress such as may be of a public nature, and which, in his judgment, require immediate publication, and cause the same to be inserted weekly for four weeks, in three public gazettes, published in each State, selecting such gazettes as shall, in his judgment, most generally distribute the laws and resolutions through the entire limits of the several States,

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the same by striking out the words "select from" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "cause;" strike out the words "such as may be of a public nature, and which, in his judgment, require immediate publication, and cause the same."

Mr. Machen demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the bill by adding thereto, as an additional section, the following, to wit:

SEC. 2. Any printer or publisher who may desire to print and publish an edition of the laws of the Confederate States may do so at his own expense and for his own benefit, and the Attorney-General shall grant a certificate of authentication to any such editor of the laws as shall conform to the standard now required for the printing and publication of the laws. Any edition of the laws so authenticated shall avail for all purposes for which the official publication may now be used.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by inserting after the word "gazettes" the words "of the largest circulation."

Mr. Clark demanded the previous question.

The previous question was ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Smith was lost.

The amendment of Mr. Baldwin was agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time.

Mr. Dupré moved that the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading be reconsidered.

The motion was lost, and the bill as amended was passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz: S. 100. An act to amend an act to establish the Bureau of Indian Affairs; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Yeas: Arrington, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Mannerlyn, Perkins, Read, Royston, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Johnston, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Swan, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Swan moved that the bill and amendments be referred to a special committee of five members, to be appointed by the Chair.

Mr. Atkins demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion prevailed.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred a bill of the Senate to prevent the absence of officers or soldiers without leave, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That no officer or soldier of the Army shall receive pay for any period during which he may be absent without leave, or beyond the leave granted from competent authority according to the regulations of the Army: *Provided*, That this restriction shall not affect sick and wounded officers and soldiers in hospitals.

SEC. 2. In order to enforce the requirements of the foregoing section, it is hereby made the duty of commanding officers of companies to state upon the muster and pay rolls of their companies the length of time any officer or soldier has been absent therefrom without leave of competent authority since the previous payment, when

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the first section of the bill by inserting after the word "Army" the words

or where the same has been taken for the use of their commands by officers who executed informal or insufficient receipts therefor, and for which proper receipts can not now, by reason of the death of such officers, or other sufficient cause, be obtained.

Mr. Conrad moved that the bill and amendments be laid upon the table, and demanded that the vote be taken by yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 22
 { Nays ----- 51

Yeas: Arrington, Batson, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Hilton, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McDowell, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Vest, Villeré, and Wilcox.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Moore, Preston, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the House refused to lay the bill and amendments upon the table.

Mr. Goode demanded the previous question.

The previous question was not ordered.

Mr. Garnett demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and was upon agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Clapp.

Mr. Clapp demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 42
 { Nays ----- 28

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Foster, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McRae, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Boyce, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Hartridge, Heiskell, Jones, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Moore, Pugh, Read, Simpson, Vest, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Goode demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend by inserting in the first section, after the words "use of the Army," the words

and for property lawfully destroyed by the military authorities on the ground that it would, if captured, aid the enemy in the prosecution of the war.

Mr. Clark moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendments be indefinitely postponed.

Marshall, McQueen, Munierlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, De Jarnette, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Heiskell, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, McLean, Moore, Preston, Royston, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill and amendments were laid upon the table.

Mr. Harris moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Clark moved that the vote by which the bill was laid upon the table be reconsidered.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Moore, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to substitutes, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be laid upon the table: which was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell, from the same committee, reported

A bill to provide for the execution of deeds by marshals in certain cases;

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Garland, from the same committee, to which was referred a communication from the Postmaster-General in relation to making the Post-Office Department self-sustaining, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads: which was agreed to.

Mr. Garland also, from the same committee, to which was referred a resolution in reference to a digest of the laws, reported

A bill to provide for digesting the laws of the United States, and of the Provisional and Permanent Congresses, that are now in force in the Confederate States;

which was read the first and second times, postponed, and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Gray, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to amend an act to establish the judicial courts of the Confederate States of America, approved March 16, 1861, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Gray, from the same committee, reported

A bill concerning fees of district attorneys;

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That whereas doubts have arisen as to the fees allowed by law to district attorneys of the Con-

federate States, it is hereby declared that they have been and are entitled to the fees established by the laws of the Confederate States in force prior to the act entitled "An act to establish the judicial courts of the Confederate States of America," approved March sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, as well as those enacted since that date.

Sec. 2. That district attorneys shall be entitled to the same fees in contested cases arising under the sequestration laws as are allowed in other cases,

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the first section of the bill by adding after the word "laws" the words "of the Confederate States."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hartridge moved to amend the bill by adding as an additional section the following, to wit:

The amount of compensation received by the district attorneys from all sources shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars per annum.

Mr. Davidson moved to amend the bill by striking out the second section thereof.

The amendment was agreed to.

The amendment of Mr. Hartridge was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved that the House reconsider the vote striking out the second section of the bill.

The motion was lost, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SEVENTY-FIRST DAY—THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Edwards.

On motion of Mr. Hartridge, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the Clerk was ordered to report immediately to the Senate a bill entitled "An act for the relief of the Brunswick and Albany Railroad Company, of the State of Georgia."

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported

A bill to increase the salary of the judge of the district court of the Confederate States for the eastern district of Virginia; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the compensation hereafter to be allowed the judge of the district court of the Confederate States for the eastern district of Virginia shall be five thousand dollars per annum, payable quarterly.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That so much of an act entitled "An act to establish the judicial courts of the Confederate States of America," approved March sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, as provides that the salary of each of the judges of the district courts of the Confederate States shall be equal to that paid to a judge of the court of the highest jurisdiction in the State where the district judge resides, be, and the same is hereby, repealed, and in lieu thereof the district judges shall receive a salary of five thousand dollars, to be paid quarterly.

Mr. Foote moved to amend by inserting after the word "hereafter" the words "until the end of one year after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Garland was lost.

The question being on ordering the bill to be engrossed for a third reading,

The same was lost.

Mr. Harris moved that the vote by which the House refused to order the bill to be engrossed for a third reading be reconsidered.

Mr. Curry demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 21. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to make certain contracts without advertising for proposals," approved August 29, 1861.

They have also passed bills of the following titles; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House:

S. 75. An act to provide for having the laws relating to military and naval affairs digested and published;

S. 107. An act to provide for the transfer of persons serving in the Army to the Navy; and

S. 108. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate impressments," approved March 26, 1863.

They disagree to the amendment proposed by this House to the bill (S. 27) entitled "An act defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States," ask a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Sparrow, Mr. Phelan, and Mr. Mitchel managers at the said conference on their part.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to provide for placing in the military service of the Confederate States citizens of Maryland residing or sojourning within the limits of the Confederacy,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, with the opinion that the bill does not conflict with the provisions of the Constitution.

Mr. Foster demanded the question; which was ordered, and the report of the committee was agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to provide for the transfer of persons serving in the Army to the Navy;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 7. A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit the punishment of soldiers by whipping;" and

H. R. 10. A bill to be entitled "An act to allow minors to hold commissions in the Army."

And the same were signed by the Speaker.

On motion of Mr. Kenan of Georgia,

The House insisted on its amendment to a bill of the Senate entitled "An act defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States," and agreed to the committee of conference proposed by the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments,' approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to establish the form of fifty-cent Treasury notes;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to pay officers and privates not legally mustered into the service of the Confederate States for services actually performed;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act to establish the Bureau of Indian Affairs;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to provide for having the laws relating to military and naval affairs digested and published;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Printing.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Chilton moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the committee of conference.

The Chair decided that the motion was not in order, upon the ground that under the order of the House the call of committees should be proceeded with until concluded, and that, pending the call of committees, no other business nor any motion to suspend the rules should be in order.

Mr. Chilton appealed to the House from the decision of the Chair.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill authorizing the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to continue in force an act authorizing the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Barksdale moved that the vote by which the bill was postponed and placed upon the Calendar be reconsidered.

Pending the consideration of which,

The hour of 3.30 having arrived,

The House took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having again met,

Mr. Chambers demanded the question; which was on the motion to reconsider.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 21
 } Nays ----- 44

Yeas: Barksdale, Batson, Bridgers, Conrow, Ewing, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Pugh, Royston, and Vest.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hodge, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McLean, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the resolution of Mr. Garnett, continuing the call of committees, was agreed to.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof after the word "*Resolved*" and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That the committees be called through for reports before the transaction of any other business, except matters of personal privilege and other matters regarded as of such high importance under ordinary rule as to give them precedence over all other business, and in the meantime no motion to suspend the rule shall be in order; and this resolution shall apply to secret as well as to open session.

The amendment was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the resolution as amended,

Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 46
 } Nays ----- 17

Yeas: Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Strickland, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Farrow, Gray, Johnston, Kenner, Lewis, Perkins, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the resolution as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Garland, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to organize the Supreme

Court of the Confederate States," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

Mr. Jones moved that the consideration of the bill and amendment be postponed until the third Monday of the next session.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 39
 { Nays ----- 29[30]

Yeas: Atkins, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Conrow, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, McRae, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Collier, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hart-ridge, Hilton, Hodge, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, and Welsh.

So the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to reconsider the vote by which the motion to postpone was agreed to.

Mr. Atkins moved to lay the motion on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Garland, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to establish the court for the investigation of claims against the Government of the Confederate States," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

Mr. Boyce moved that the consideration of the bill be postponed until the fourth Monday in the next session and that it be printed.

Mr. Jones demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 34
 { Nays ----- 37

Yeas: Atkins, Batson, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Currin, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Harris, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved that the consideration of the bill be made the special order of business for Monday next and that the bill be printed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones moved that the consideration of the bill be postponed until the third Monday in next session.

Mr. Moore demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Machen moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas -----	36
	{ Nays -----	35

Yeas: Atkins, Batson, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Currin, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Harris, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Strickland,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair presented a communication from the President: which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 6, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, to be read in secret session.

I invite your especial attention to the subject presented.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President: which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 2, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of State, to be read in secret session, in partial response to your resolution of February 28, asking for copies of such portions of the correspondence between the State Department and our commissioners abroad as can be communicated without detriment to the public interest.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Perkins moved that the message and accompanying documents be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the motion of Mr. Perkins by adding thereto the words "with instructions to report to this House if any of said correspondence should be printed, and if so, what part."

The amendment was agreed to, and the motion as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to establish a volunteer navy,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

And the question upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it on the Calendar being decided in the negative,

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred joint resolution of the Senate (2) relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

On motion of Mr. Conrad, the further consideration of the joint resolution and amendment was postponed, ordered to be printed, and made the special order for Monday next after the morning hour, and from day to day until concluded.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate (82) entitled "An act to authorize retaliation on the enemy for violations of the usages of civilized warfare," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with sundry amendments.

On motion of Mr. Conrad, the further consideration of the bill and amendments was postponed, ordered to be printed, and made the special order after the joint resolution on the subject of retaliation, and from day to day until concluded.

Mr. Gray moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a resolution.

Mr. Jones, being in the chair, decided the motion out of order, the House having ordered that no suspension of the rules be allowed until after the conclusion of the call of committees.

Mr. Read appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

Resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTY-SECOND DAY—FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Edwards.

The Chair announced as the special committee of five members on the bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy, Messrs. Swan of Tennessee, Machen of Kentucky, Freeman of Missouri, Preston of Virginia, and Hanly of Arkansas.

The Chair also announced as the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on a bill entitled "An act defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States," Messrs. Kenan of Georgia, Pugh of Alabama, and Wright of Tennessee.

Mr. Clark moved that he be excused from further service upon the special committee to inquire into the treatment of prisoners confined in Castle Thunder, Richmond, Va.; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the committee of conference, reported as follows, to wit:

The managers on the part of the House of Representatives have met the managers on the part of the Senate in relation to the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon the bill to be entitled "An act to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service," and, after free and full conference, they have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows, viz:

That the Senate do agree to the amendment of the House, with the following amendment; so as to make the said amendment read as follows, viz: "And no contractor on any route of less than ten miles in length, and on which the mail is carried on horse, shall be exempt under this act."

And that the House do agree to the amendment as amended.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. S. OLDHAM.
W. L. YANCEY.
CHAS. B. MITCHEL.
W. P. CHILTON.
JNO. D. C. ATKINS.
HINES HOLT.

The question being on concurring in the report.

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved that the vote by which a bill to be entitled "An act to establish the court for the investigation of claims against the Government of the Confederate States," was postponed be reconsidered.

Mr. Davis demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Chambliss demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 39
Nays----- 42

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davis, De Jarrette, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Simpson, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Boyce, Breckinridge, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Hanly, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was

A bill to reorganize and promote the efficiency of the Medical Department of the Army.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the rank, pay, and allowances of a brigadier-general in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States be, and the same are hereby, conferred on the Surgeon-General.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States two assistant surgeons-general, with the rank, pay, and allowances of colonels of cavalry; one medical inspector-general, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a colonel of cavalry; such number of surgeons, with the rank, pay, and allowances of lieutenant-colonels of cavalry, and to be assigned to such duty as

the President may direct, and such number of surgeons, with the rank, pay, and allowances of majors of cavalry, and to be assigned to such duty as the President may direct.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That there shall be established in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States an infirmary corps, composed, for each brigade of an army in the field, of four assistant surgeons, with the rank, pay, and allowances of captains of cavalry, and four sergeants, with the pay and allowances of hospital stewards. There shall be detailed, when an engagement is expected, from each brigade, a number of men, not less than one nor more than two for each company in the brigade, who, wearing distinctive badges, will, for the time being, form part of the infirmary corps, and be placed under the authority of the officers and noncommissioned officers of the corps; these being under the direction of the principal medical officer of the brigade, or other medical officer of higher authority, all to be governed by such regulations as may be published for their guidance by the Secretary of War. The duty of the medical officers of the corps shall be to render surgical aid to the wounded during and after battle, in field infirmaries or elsewhere, until the wounded are received into permanent hospitals, when they, with the sergeants, will rejoin the command, and, until their services again become necessary on the field of battle, shall perform temporarily such duty as may be assigned them by the medical director. The sergeants and detailed men shall succor the wounded on the battlefield, removing them on stretchers or in ambulances to the infirmaries or field hospitals, and render in the infirmaries, in the capacity of attendants and nurses, such further aid as may be required from them until the wounded are received into permanent hospitals, when the detailed men will be returned to their commands. After a battle, if the army change position, the infirmary corps, including the detailed men, or such portion as the medical directors deem advisable, shall remain on duty in the infirmaries until the sick and wounded are received into permanent hospitals, when they will rejoin their commands as herein provided.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That for each brigade of an army in the field there shall be allowed for the field infirmaries four cooks, not enlisted men, to be subject to military control, and to be paid an amount not exceeding twenty-five dollars per month.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the appointment of a medical officer of the Regular Army to any offices created by this act shall not affect his position in the Regular Army.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That the rank conferred on medical officers by this act shall not entitle them to exercise command, except in their own department, which will include the infirmary corps,

Mr. Wright of Georgia moved, on the part of the Committee on the Medical Department, to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That the rank, pay, and allowances of a brigadier-general in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States be, and the same are hereby, attached to the office of Surgeon-General.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States two assistant surgeons-general, with the rank, pay, and allowances of colonels of cavalry; such number of medical inspectors, not exceeding ten, as the President may direct, with the rank, pay, and allowance of colonels of cavalry, who shall be charged with the general supervision of hospitals, the sanitary condition of encampments and troops, including all matters of hygiene and supplies; such number of surgeons, with the rank, pay, and allowances of lieutenant-colonels of cavalry, and to be assigned to such duty as the President may direct, and such number of surgeons, with the rank, pay, and allowances of majors of cavalry, and to be assigned to such duty as the President may direct.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That there shall be established in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States an infirmary corps of medical officers (surgeons and assistant surgeons, with the rank, pay, and allowances of other medical officers of like grades), in number not to exceed one surgeon for each brigade and one assistant surgeon for each regiment, who shall not be attached to the organization of troops, but shall serve in the field, or in field hospitals, under such regulations as the Secretary of War shall prescribe.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the appointment of a medical officer of the Regular Army to any office created by this act shall not affect his position in the Regular Army.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the rank conferred on medical officers by this act shall not entitle them to exercise command, except in their own department.

Mr. Barksdale demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Barksdale demanded the question; which was on the passage of the bill.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows: { Yeas..... 49
 { Nays..... 27

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Goode, Gray, Harris, Hart-ridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Mences, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strick-land, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Hanly, Heiskell, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Marshall, McLean, Pugh, Trippe, and Welsh.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, the communications from the President, vetoing sundry bills, were taken up and their consideration postponed until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as cor-rectly engrossed and enrolled

An act to amend an act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to make certain contracts without advertising for proposals, approved August 29, 1861.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Foote moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost.

The Chair appointed Mr. Wright of Georgia on the special com-mittee to investigate the treatment of prisoners confined in Castle Thunder, in place of Mr. Clark, excused.

Mr. Gray, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which were referred two resolutions in relation to the sequestration laws, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further considera-tion, and that the same be laid upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Gray, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act for the sequestration of estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States, approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in all cases where execution shall be issued for interest, as authorized by the fourteenth section of said

act, the defendant shall be liable for costs accruing on such execution: *Provided*, That execution shall not issue within thirty days after the interest becomes due.

SEC. 2. The clerk shall have power, without the order of the judge, to issue execution on any judgment or decree when the receiver shall make oath that he has reasonable grounds to believe the debtor is fraudulently concealing or disposing of his effects with intent to evade the judgment or decree, or is about to remove his effects beyond the jurisdiction of the court; but execution shall be discharged on defendant giving security, to be approved by the clerk, and paying costs of the proceedings.

SEC. 3. That all sales of real estate made by the receiver under the act to which this is an amendment may be reported to the judge and confirmed in vacation under the same regulations required during the session of the court,

Mr. Gray, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That whenever it shall appear to any district court that a sale of lands or other property sequestered would not be likely to produce a fair price because of the existence of the war, such court may, in its discretion, for that cause, as well as for the causes heretofore prescribed by law, suspend the sale of such land or other property during the war, or until it appears that a fair and beneficial sale can be made; and before any sale shall be made it shall be the duty of the receiver or other officer by whom the sale is to be made to cause the property to be appraised by three discreet and disinterested freeholders, residents of the county or parish in which the property is situated, under oath to be administered to them by the officer, which appraisement shall be in writing, signed by them, and be preserved by the officer with the process in his hands; and if the property when offered shall not bring at least two-thirds of such appraised value, the sale shall be suspended, and the officer shall return the process to the court, stating thereon the facts and cause of such suspension, and such property shall not be again offered for sale until directed by further order of the court.

SEC. 2. Whenever a sale of lands or other property has been or shall be made and confirmed and terms of sale fully complied with by the purchaser, such sale shall pass the title to such property, not only of the person as whose property it has been sequestered, but of all others, alien enemies of the Confederate States, as whose property it would have been liable to sequestration or confiscation, whether named or not in the proceedings therefor.

SEC. 3. The proceedings for the sequestration or confiscation of any property, money, rights, or credits of any alien enemy of the Confederate States shall bind and operate against the claim and title, not only of the person named in the proceedings therefor, but also of any and all other alien enemies who would have been liable to such proceedings. And no cause of action, in any manner or for any purpose whatever, shall ever exist, and no suit allowed, on behalf of any person who was an alien enemy of the Confederate States, in regard to any property sequestered and sold, money collected, or any other proceeding under the sequestration or confiscation laws; nor in behalf of any person claiming right under or from such alien enemy, by title or interest acquired subsequent to the thirtieth day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

SEC. 4. All claims or suits of any citizen or alien friend for any right or credit or other property sequestered in proceedings against an alien enemy shall be asserted by institution of suit therefor within one year after the ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States; and all such claims not so asserted shall be barred.

SEC. 5. Where negotiable notes or bills have been delivered or other debts contracted to or with an alien enemy, and have been or may be sequestered, and they can not be produced in suits against debtors, or where the ownership of them is unknown, and no notice of a transfer to a citizen or alien friend or neutral has been given, the presumption shall be that such notes, bills, or debts were the property of an alien enemy and liable to sequestration. And where a transfer or assignment of any such claim is alleged to a citizen or neutral, the burden of proving that such transfer or assignment was made in good faith and for value, before it became liable to sequestration, shall rest on the party asserting the same.

SEC. 6. All judgments and decrees which have been or may be rendered for debts to alien enemies under the acts to which this is supplemental shall be subject to and regulated by the laws of the State in which they are rendered, concerning the liens of judgments and the manner of proceeding on executions in such State; and the district courts respectively shall mold their process so as to give effect to such laws.

SEC. 7. Any citizen who shall in good faith and without notice of a transfer of any

note, bill, or other credit, sequestered as the property of an alien enemy, pay the debt evidenced thereby to the receiver or marshal of the Confederate States authorized to collect the same, and who shall hereafter be made liable or compelled to pay the same by judgment or decree of a court of the Confederate States to a party who was not an alien enemy, shall be reimbursed by the Government of the Confederate States in the amount so paid to such receiver or marshal, together with interest thereon, at the same rate which the debt paid was drawing, and cost of suit incurred: *Provided*, That the debtor shall have notified the attorney of the Confederate States of the pendency of such suit, that he may defend the same, or in case such notice be not given, that the judge presiding at the trial shall certify that the suit was defended in good faith by the debtor.

SEC. 8. In all cases where execution shall be issued for interest on judgments or decrees the defendants shall be liable for the costs accruing on such execution: *Provided*, That execution shall not issue within thirty days after the interest becomes due.

SEC. 9. The clerk shall have power, without order of the judge, in vacation, to issue execution on any judgment or decree when the receiver shall make oath in writing that he has reasonable grounds to believe that the debtor is fraudulently concealing or disposing of his effects with intent to evade the judgment or decree, or is about to remove his effects beyond the jurisdiction of the court; but such execution shall be discharged on the defendant giving bond and security in double the amount of the debt, to be approved by the clerk, and paying costs of the proceedings.

SEC. 10. All sales of real estate made by the receiver under the acts to which this is supplemental, under order, judgment, or decree of the court, may be reported to the judge and confirmed in vacation under the same regulations as are required in cases of confirmation during the term of the court.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment by striking out all of the first section and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That all sales of land and other property not perishable, under the act entitled "An act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," and acts amending the same, be, and the same are hereby, suspended until otherwise provided by law.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 59. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to make certain contracts without advertising for proposals," approved August 29, 1861;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill of the Senate (S. 97) to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service.

The hour of half past 3 having arrived,

The House, under the rule, took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having again met,

Mr. Chambers demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Holt moved to amend the amendment by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That all proceedings under the sequestration laws be, and the same are hereby, suspended.

Mr. Curry demanded the question.

Mr. Garland demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time.

Mr. Curry demanded the question; which was on the passage of the bill.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not seconded, and the bill was passed.

The title of the same being under consideration, which is as follows, to wit:

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to alter and amend an act for the sequestration of estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," approved February 15, 1862,

Mr. Gray, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by striking out all thereof and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

An act supplementary to and amendatory of the several acts for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States.

The amendment was agreed to, and title as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Wright of Georgia, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the Clerk was directed to report immediately to the Senate

An act to reorganize and promote the efficiency of the Medical Department of the Army.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 111. An act to authorize the issue of eight per cent bonds or certificates of stock in certain cases.

They have also passed, with amendments, bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 12. An act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri;

H. R. 17. An act to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees; and

H. R. 29. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers," approved May 21, 1861;

In which bills and amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of the Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

The Senate have passed, with amendment, the bill of this House (H. R. 18) entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States;" in which amendment I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair presented a bill of the House to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States; which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

The bill and amendment were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and the amendment of the Senate ordered to be printed.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 52. An act to fix the rank of officers in the military and naval service of the Confederate States holding commissions under the Provisional Government when reappointed to offices of the same grade under the Permanent Government.

And the Speaker signed the same.

And on motion,

The House resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTY-THIRD DAY—SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Edwards.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the motion of Mr. Conrad that the House reconsider the vote by which a bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to and amendatory of the several acts for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," was passed.

Mr. Royston demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	55
Nays	22

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hart-ridge, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Bridgers, Chilton, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Lewis, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Russell, and Wilcox.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the vote by which the bill as amended was ordered to a third reading was reconsidered.

Mr. Jones moved that the vote agreeing to the amendment offered by the committee be reconsidered: which was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendment be indefinitely postponed, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 25
Nays----- 48

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Bell, Chambers, Clopton, Conrow, Davidson, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hart-ridge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Menees, Pugh, Ralls, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garland, Goode, Gray, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Mil-ler, Perkins, Preston, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 74. An act to amend an act entitled "An act for the establishment and organi-zation of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States of America," approved February 26, 1861;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

They have also concurred in the amendments of this House to bills of the follow-ing titles, viz:

S. 41. An act to amend the several acts prescribing the mode of publishing the laws and resolutions of the Confederate States; and

S. 78. An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the Senate to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment by inserting as an additional section, after section 2, the following, viz:

SEC. 3. No property sequestered under the provisions of this act shall be offered for sale until it shall have been appraised by three disinterested parties, residents in and freeholders in the county or parish in which the same is held or situated, and sworn by the receiver to make a true and just appraisement of said property accord-ing to the best of their judgment and knowledge, and said property shall not be sold unless at least three-fourths of the sum at which it was appraised be offered for the same.

Mr. Lyons moved that the bill and amendments be recommitted to a special committee of five members, to be appointed by the Chair, with leave to report at any time.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the motion by instructing the committee to strike out the fifth and sixth sections of the amendment offered by the committee.

Mr. Atkins demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Chilton demanded a division of the question.

The question being on instructing the committee to strike out the fifth section of the amendment.

The same was lost.

The question then being on instructing the special committee to strike out the sixth section of the amendment,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 53
 } Nays 16

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gannett, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Dupré, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, McLean, McQueen, Miller, Perkins, Russell, and Vest.

So the committee were instructed to strike out the sixth section of the amendment.

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit as amended was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Kenner of Louisiana,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session:

When,

On motion of Mr. Davidson,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock on Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred the amendment of the Senate to a bill of the House to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the House do disagree to the amendment of the Senate.

Mr. Singleton moved that the further consideration of the bill and amendment be postponed and made the special order for Monday next.

Mr. Heiskell moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion was lost, and the motion to postpone and make special order prevailed.

Mr. Foote, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which had been referred sundry resolutions in relation to the pending war, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the resolutions lie on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Foote, from the same committee, reported and recommended the passage of the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That the Government of the Confederate States never designed to deny to the States of the Northwest the navigation of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, and that we are prepared to negotiate with them when they shall dissolve their connection with the United States.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the resolution upon the table.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

Pending which,
The House,
On motion of Mr. Garnett,
Resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTY-FOURTH DAY—MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Burrows.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to authorize the issue of eight per cent bonds or certificates of stock in certain cases;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to make certain contracts without advertising for proposals," approved August 29, 1861; which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair presented a bill of the House entitled "An act to amend an act to secure copyrights to authors and composers," approved March 21, 1861, returned from the Senate with an amendment.

The rule requiring a reference of the same to a committee having been suspended, the bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States do enact*, Any person now being a citizen or resident of the Confederate States of America, loyal to the Government thereof, who had secured a copyright in any book, map, musical composition, print, or engraving, under the laws of the United States before the separation of these States therefrom, shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges, and remedies secured to authors and composers by the act to which this act is an amendment, upon complying with the several requirements made of authors and composers by the aforesaid act: *Provided*, That in ascertaining the term of any copyright the period during which it was enjoyed under the laws of the United States shall be computed.

SEC. 2. Any author, composer, or designer who is a citizen of any of the Confederate States and loyal to the Government thereof, and who has any interest in the form of a percentage on the sales or otherwise in the copyright obtained under the law of the United States and owned by an alien enemy, shall have all the rights, privileges, and remedies of the owner thereof, under the conditions and restrictions provided in the preceding section of this act.

SEC. 3. Any author, designer, or publisher who may be entitled to the benefit of the provisions of the first section of this act shall have all the remedies for any infringement of his or her copyright which may have occurred before the passage of this act which would exist had such infringement occurred subsequent to its passage,

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of the Senate, which is as follows, viz: Insert in section 2, line 5, after the word "have," the words "to the extent of the interest or percentage aforesaid."

The same was disagreed to, and

On motion of Mr. Holcombe, a conference was proposed to the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

The Chair appointed as managers on the part of the House at the said conference Messrs. Holcombe of Virginia, Machen of Kentucky, and Curry of Alabama.

The Chair also presented a bill of the House, returned from the Senate with sundry amendments, entitled "An act for the relief of certain military officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri;" which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair presented a bill of the House entitled "An act to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees," returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The rule referring the same to a committee having been suspended, The bill was taken up and read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That whenever a committee shall be raised by either the Senate or House of Representatives of the Confederate Congress, or a joint committee of both Houses, or any standing committee of either House, shall be charged with the duty of investigating any matter referred to such committee, with power to send for and examine witnesses touching the matter of inquiry so referred, the chairman of such committee, or in his absence the member of such committee presiding over it for the time being, shall have power to issue summons for compelling the attendance upon such committees, respectively, of all witnesses whom they may desire to examine, which summons shall in case of joint committee be executed by the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, and in other cases by the Sergeant at-Arms or Doorkeeper of the House to which such committee may belong, and the return of such officer indorsed in writing on the said summons as to whether the same was executed or not shall be evidence of the fact so returned; and in case any witness who has been duly summoned as aforesaid shall fail or refuse to attend before such committee in obedience to such summons, without a sufficient excuse therefor, he shall be guilty of a contempt against the authority of the body or bodies raising such committee, and on report of such failure or refusal by the chairman of such committee to the House to which such committee is required to respond, such House may call the delinquent before its bar and punish him in a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the chairman, or in his absence the member of such committees, respectively, as may preside over the deliberations thereof for the time being, shall have power to administer oaths to the witnesses to be examined before such committees, and every person so sworn and examined before any such committee who shall willfully, knowingly, and corruptly depose falsely in any manner material to the inquiry referred to and then pending before such committee, shall be guilty of perjury, and upon indictment in any court of competent jurisdiction, and conviction thereof, shall suffer all the penalties prescribed by the existing laws to be inflicted on persons guilty of said offense.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That said committees, respectively, shall have power, in case the witness whose testimony is desired resides without the city of Richmond, to issue, through their chairman, or person presiding in his absence, a commission or *dedimus potestatem*, directed to one or more discreet persons, signed by such chairman or presiding officer, and accompanied by such written interrogatories to be propounded to the witness as the committee shall adjudge necessary to elicit the information desired, directing such person or persons, or either one of them, to summon said witness to appear before him or them at a time and place to be designated in such summons, and then and there, after causing said witness to be duly sworn, to take down distinctly in writing the answers of such witness to the interrogatories attached to said commission or *dedimus potestatem*, which shall be subscribed by the witness so examined and certified and sealed up with the commission and interrogatories, and inclosed by mail to the chairman of such committee by the commissioner or commissioners so taking the same; and such commissioner shall be entitled to the same fees now allowed by law to commissioners taking depositions under authority from the district courts of the Confederate States in the State where the deposition may be taken, to be paid upon the certificate of the chairman of said committees, respectively, out of the contingent fund of Congress.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That all the pains and penalties provided by the second section of this act, to be inflicted on persons swearing knowingly, willfully, and corruptly false in the matter of their oral testimony before the said committees, respectively, shall apply to persons who shall knowingly, willfully, and corruptly

swear falsely before such commissioner in the matter of his written testimony upon any point material to the inquiry referred to said committee.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That should any person, after being duly summoned to appear by the commissioner or persons appointed by the committees, respectively, aforesaid, to give testimony, fail to appear, or appearing fail to give testimony in answer to the interrogatories addressed to him, such person shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor; and such commissioner shall send a copy of his authority, with the interrogatories annexed, and of the summons to such witness, with his certificate as to the service of the same on the witness, to the clerk of the district court of the Confederate States within the jurisdiction of which court said witness may reside; and thereupon it shall be the duty of said clerk to lay the same before the grand jury of said court at its next session, whose duty it shall be to investigate such failure to appear on the part of such witness, and if the same was without justifiable excuse, shall present or indict such witness for his failure, and on conviction he may be fined in any sum the jury may impose, and imprisoned for such length of time as the court may determine, not exceeding one year.

The question being on agreeing to the amendments of the Senate, which are as follows, viz:

First. In second line, first section, strike out the words "shall be;" also the words "by the Sergeant-at-Arms or," in fourteenth line.

Second. After words "may belong," in first section, insert the following: "or such person as the presiding officer of such committee may depute for that purpose."

Third. Add at the end of the last section the following: "and the said witness in default shall also be reported to the presiding officer of such committee, who may proceed against him thereon as herein provided for witnesses summoned to appear before the said committee."

By Mr. Chilton:

Be it further enacted, That the fees and allowances to said witness shall be the same now allowed by law to witnesses for attending the district court of the Confederate States in the district in which he may be examined, to be paid upon the certificate of the chairman of said committees, respectively, out of the contingent fund of Congress.

By Mr. Smith of North Carolina, to last section:

After the word "sum" insert "not exceeding five thousand dollars and imprisonment for a term not less than two nor more than five years, as the court may adjudge."

The same were agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in answer to a resolution of the House calling for a report of the amount of Treasury notes, not bearing interest, issued from and received at the Treasury during the months of January, February, and March, and also the amount now outstanding; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Moore, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in the Indian nations, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Garland, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill supplemental to an act to establish judicial courts in certain Indian Territories, approved February 15, 1862, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That any Indian nation entitled to a Delegate in the Congress of the Confederate States, or any citizen or citizens of such nation, may sue at law or in equity any citizen or citizens of any State or Territory of the Confederate States, or any person or persons residing or found therein, in any district court of the Confederate States, where service may be had, in the same manner and to the same extent as is now provided by act of Congress, and the treaty with the Cherokee Nation, for suits at law or in equity between any State of the Confederate States, or any citizen or citizens of such State and any citizen or citizens of such Indian nation, or person or persons residing or found therein,

Mr. Garland, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same by inserting after the words "where service may be had" the words "in any case in law or equity arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the Confederate States."

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Ewing, leave of absence was granted Mr. Crockett, on account of sickness in his family.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, notifying the House that on the 11th instant he approved and signed

H. R. 21. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to make certain contracts without advertising for proposals," approved August 29, 1861.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act for the relief of the Brunswick and Albany Railroad Company, of the State of Georgia;

An act to establish a preferred mail across the Mississippi River;

An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave;

An act to authorize the increase of the compensation of route agents, and to increase the per diem allowance to special agents of the Post-Office Department; and

An act to amend the several acts prescribing the mode of publishing the laws and resolutions of the Confederate States.

And the Speaker signed the same.

On motion of Mr. Vest, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Bell, on account of sickness in his family.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred a bill of the Senate to amend an act to regulate impressments, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs; which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to allowing foreigners to hold real estate, etc., reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, to which were referred sundry resolutions in relation to retaliation, reported the same back, asked

to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to repress the attempt of the enemy to excite servile insurrection,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to provide for retaliation upon the Government of the United States for any attempt to execute the proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, dated January 1, 1863, or to excite insurrection among any of the slaves of any of the Confederate States,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be laid upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to military courts, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to provide for the taking of testimony in certain criminal cases,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Conrad moved that the further consideration of the bill be postponed until the first Monday in January next.

Mr. Harris demanded the question.

The question was ordered, and the motion to postpone prevailed.

Mr. Harris moved that the House reconsider the vote by which a bill for the relief of certain officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri, returned from the Senate with sundry amendments, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Dargan, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back and recommended the passage, with an amendment, of

A bill to authorize the Department of Justice to offer rewards for the apprehension of fugitives from justice.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Jones moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the House agreed to postpone and place the bill upon the Calendar.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not seconded.

Mr. Read moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones moved a call of the House, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

The yeas and nays were not ordered, and the call of the House was refused.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

The bill having been read as follows:

Which were ordered,

Which were ordered,

Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce.

Mr. Heiskell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred

A bill to amend the first section of an act entitled "An act to amend the laws relative to the compensation of the attorneys of the Confederate States," approved March 15, 1861, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Heiskell, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to the pay of clerks to standing committees of the House,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it be agreed to.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The resolution was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the act of Congress approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, providing for an increase of the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments, does include the clerks of standing committees of the House, employed by order of the House at the time of the passage thereof, and that the Clerk of this House be directed to pay them accordingly,

Mr. Harris moved to amend the same by striking out all after the word "*Resolved*" and insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That an increase of fifty per cent be allowed to the compensation of clerks of standing committees of this House, in addition to the compensation which they now receive, to be paid out of the contingent fund of this House.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the amendment upon the table; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Ralls, the resolution was also laid upon the table.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred resolutions in relation to martial law, reported the same back, with the recommendation that they do pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

Mr. Davis demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 40
Nays----- 22

Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Ewing, Garland, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Clapp, Collier, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Heiskell, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the resolutions were postponed and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Garland moved that the House reconsider the vote just taken.
Pending the consideration of which,
On motion of Mr. Atkins,
The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business, which was the consideration of the motion of Mr. Kenner that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to a bill of the House to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States; which was to strike out all after the enacting clause in the bill of the House and to insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

That a tax of fifteen per centum shall be levied and collected upon the value of all naval stores, salt, wines, and spirituous liquors, tobacco manufactured or unmanufactured, cotton, wool, flour, sugar, molasses, syrup, rice, and other agricultural products not owned by the producers on the first day of July next, and on the value of all naval stores, cotton, wool, and tobacco owned by the producers on the first day of July next, and of the growth of any year preceding the year eighteen hundred and sixty-three, a tax of five per centum; and on all moneys, Confederate or State Treasury notes, bank notes or other currency on hand or on deposit on the first day of July next, and on all credits on which the holder has refused to receive Treasury notes in payment, a tax of two per centum: *Provided*, That all moneys owned, held, or deposited beyond the limits of the Confederate States shall be valued at the current rate of exchange in Confederate Treasury notes, and the said tax shall be assessed on the first day of July next, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, and be collected on the first day of October next, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

Sec. 2. Every person engaged or intending to engage in any business named in the fifth section of this act shall, within sixty days after the passage of this act, or at the time of beginning business, and on the first day of January in each year thereafter, register with the district collector, in such form as the commissioner of taxes shall prescribe, a true account of the name and residence of each person, firm, or corporation engaged or interested in the business, with a statement of the time for which and the place and manner in which the same is to be conducted, and of all other facts going to ascertain the amount of tax upon such business for the past or the future, according to the provisions of this act. At the time of such registry there shall be paid to the collector the specific tax for the year ending on the next thirty-first of December, and such other tax as may be due upon sales or receipts in such business at the time of such registry as herein provided; and the collector shall give to the person making such registry a copy thereof, with a receipt for the amount of tax then paid.

Sec. 3. Any person failing to make the registry and to pay the tax required by the preceding section shall, in addition to all other taxes upon his business imposed by this act, pay double the amount of the specific tax on such business, and a like sum for every thirty days of such failure.

Sec. 4. Except where herein otherwise provided, there shall be a separate registry and tax for each business mentioned in the fifth section of this act, and for each place of conducting the same, but no tax shall be required for the mere storage of goods at a place other than the registered place of business. Upon every change in the place of conducting a registered business there shall be a new registry, but no additional tax shall be required. Upon the death of any person conducting a business registered and taxed as herein required, or upon the transfer of the business to another, the business shall not be subjected to any additional tax, but there shall be a new registry in the name of the person authorized by law to continue the business.

Sec. 5. That upon each trade, business, or occupation hereinafter named the following taxes shall be levied and paid for the year ending on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and for each and every year thereafter, viz:

1. Bankers shall pay five hundred dollars. Every person shall be deemed a banker within the meaning of this act who keeps a place of business where credits are opened in favor of any person, firm, or corporation, by the deposit or collection

of money or currency, and by whom the same, or any part thereof, shall be paid out or remitted upon the draft, check, or order of such creditor; but not to include any bank legally authorized to issue notes as circulation, nor agents for the sale of merchandise for account of producers or manufacturers.

II. Auctioneers shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of sales made: *Provided, however*, That on all sales at auction of stocks or securities for money the tax shall be one-fourth of one per centum on the gross amount of sales. Every person shall be deemed an auctioneer, within the meaning of this act, whose occupation it is to offer property for sale to the highest or best bidder at public outcry. The tax upon the auctioneers shall be deemed a tax upon the personal privilege, to be paid by each individual engaged in the business, and without regard to the place at which the same is conducted. No tax shall be required upon auction sales made for dealers in a business registered and taxed, and at their places of business, or upon official sales at auction, made by judicial or executive officers, or by personal representatives, guardians, or committees.

III. Wholesale dealers in liquors of any and every description, including distilled spirits, fermented liquors, and wines of all kinds, shall pay two hundred dollars and five per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Every person, other than the distiller or brewer, who shall sell, or offer for sale, any such liquors or wines in quantities of more than three gallons at one time, to the same purchaser, shall be regarded as a wholesale dealer in liquors, within the meaning of this act. All persons who shall sell, or offer for sale, any such liquors or wines in quantities less than three gallons at one time, to the same person, shall be regarded as a retail dealer in liquors.

IV. Retail dealers in liquor, including distilled spirits, fermented liquors, and wines of every description, shall pay one hundred dollars and ten per centum on the gross amount of all sales made.

V. Retail dealers shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Every person whose business or occupation it is to sell or offer to sell groceries, or any goods, wares, merchandise, or other things of foreign or domestic production, in less quantities than a whole original piece or package at one time, to the same person (not including wines, spirituous or malt liquors), shall be regarded as a retail dealer under this act: *Provided, however*, That any mechanic who shall sell only the products of the labor of himself and his own family shall be exempt from this tax.

VI. Wholesale dealers shall pay two hundred dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of all sales made. Every person whose business or occupation it is to sell or offer to sell groceries, or any goods, wares, or merchandise of foreign or domestic production, by one or more original package or piece at one time, to the same purchaser (not including wines, spirituous or malt liquors), shall be deemed as a wholesale dealer under this act; but, having been registered as a wholesale dealer, such person may also sell, as aforesaid, as a retailer.

VII. Pawnbrokers shall pay two hundred dollars. Every person whose business or occupation it is to take or receive, by way of pledge, favor, or exchange, any goods, wares, or merchandise, or any kind of personal property whatever, for the repayment or security of money lent thereon, shall be deemed a pawnbroker under this act.

VIII. Distillers shall pay two hundred dollars and also twenty per centum on the gross amount of all sales made. Every person or copartnership who distills or manufactures spirituous liquors for sale shall be deemed a distiller under this act: *Provided, however*, That distillers of fruit, for ninety days or less, shall pay sixty dollars and also fifty cents per gallon on the first ten gallons and two dollars per gallon on all spirits distilled beyond that quantity.

IX. Brewers shall pay one hundred dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Every person who manufactures fermented liquors of any name or description for sale from malt, wholly or in part, shall be deemed a brewer under this act.

X. Keepers of hotels, inns, taverns, and boarding houses shall pay forty dollars. Every place where food and lodgings are provided for and furnished travelers, sojourners, or boarders, in view of payment therefor, shall be regarded as a hotel, inn, tavern, or boarding house under this act.

XI. Keepers of eating houses shall pay forty dollars. Every place where food or refreshments of any kind are provided for casual visitors, and sold for consumption therein, shall be deemed an eating house under this act.

XII. Brokers shall pay two hundred dollars. Any person whose business it is to purchase or sell stocks, coined money, bank notes, or other securities for themselves or others, or who deals in exchanges relating to money, shall be deemed a broker under this act.

XIII. Commercial brokers shall pay two hundred dollars and two and a half per centum upon all sales made. Any person or firm, except one registered as wholesale dealer or banker, whose business it is, as the agent of others, to purchase or sell goods or seek orders therefor in original or unbroken packages, or produce consigned by others than the producers, to manage business matters for the owners of vessels or for the shippers or consignors of goods, or whose business it is to purchase, rent, hire, or sell real estate or negroes, shall be deemed a commercial broker under this act.

XIV. Tobacconists shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on gross amount of sales. Any person whose business it is to sell at retail cigars, snuff, or tobacco in any form shall be deemed a tobacconist under this act, but registered wholesale and retail dealers shall not be taxed as tobacconists.

XV. Theaters shall pay five hundred dollars and five per centum on all receipts, which tax shall be paid by the owner of the building. Every edifice used for the purpose of dramatic representations, plays, or performances, and not including halls rented or used occasionally for concerts or theatrical representations, shall be regarded as a theater under this act. Each circus shall pay one hundred dollars and a tax of ten dollars for each exhibition, which tax shall be paid by the manager thereof. Every building, tent, or space or area where feats of horsemanship or acrobatic sports are exhibited shall be regarded as a circus under this act. Jugglers and other persons exhibiting shows shall pay fifty dollars. Every person who performs by sleight of hand shall be regarded as a juggler under this act: *Provided*, That no registry made in one State shall be held to authorize exhibitions in another State, and but one registry shall be required under this act to authorize exhibitions in any one State.

XVI. Bowling alleys and billiard rooms shall pay forty dollars for each alley or billiard table registered, which tax shall be paid by the owner thereof. Every place or building where bowls are thrown or billiards played and open to the public with or without price shall be regarded as a bowling alley or billiard room, respectively, under this act.

XVII. Livery stable keepers shall pay fifty dollars. Any person whose occupation or business is to keep horses for hire or to let shall be regarded as a livery stable keeper under this act.

XVIII. Cattle brokers shall pay the sum of fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Any person whose business it is to buy and sell and deal in cattle, horses, hogs, or sheep shall be considered a cattle broker.

XIX. Butchers and bakers shall pay the sum of fifty dollars and one per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Any person whose business it is to butcher and sell, or offer for sale, in open market or otherwise, the flesh of cattle, hogs, or sheep shall be deemed a butcher under this act; and any person whose business it is to bake and sell, or offer for sale, bread shall be deemed a baker under this act.

XX. Peddlers shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per cent on the gross sales. Any person, except persons engaged in peddling exclusively periodicals, books, newspapers, published in the Confederate States, Bibles or religious tracts, who sells, or offers to sell, at retail, goods, wares, or other commodities, traveling with his goods from place to place, in the street or through different parts of the country, shall be deemed a peddler under this act: *Provided*, That any peddler who sells, or offers to sell, dry goods, foreign or domestic, by one or more original pieces or packages at one time, and to the same person or persons as aforesaid, shall pay one hundred dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross sales; and any person who peddles jewelry shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross sales. The tax upon peddlers shall be deemed a tax upon the personal privilege, to be paid by each individual engaged in the business, without regard to place at which the same is conducted.

XXI. Apothecaries shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Every person who keeps a shop or building where medicines are compounded or prepared, according to prescriptions of physicians, and sold, shall be regarded as an apothecary under this act.

XXII. Photographers shall pay the sum of fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of sales made. Any person or persons who make for sale photographs, ambrotypes, daguerreotypes, or pictures on glass, metal, paper, or other material, by the action of light, shall be regarded a photographer under this act.

XXIII. Lawyers actually engaged in practice shall pay fifty dollars. Every person whose business it is, for fee or reward, to prosecute or defend causes in any court of record or other judicial tribunal of the Confederate States, or of any State, or give advice in relation to causes or matters pending therein, shall be deemed to be a lawyer within the meaning of this act.

XXIV. Physicians, surgeons, and dentists actually engaged in practice shall pay fifty dollars. Every person whose business it is, for fee or reward, to prescribe remedies or perform surgical operations for the cure of any bodily disease or ailment shall be deemed a physician, surgeon, or dentist within the meaning of this act, as the case may be; and the provisions of paragraph number twenty-one shall not extend to physicians who keep on hand medicines solely for the purpose of making up their own prescriptions for their own patients. The tax upon lawyers, physicians, surgeons, and dentists shall be deemed a tax upon the personal privilege, to be paid by each individual in the business, and without regard to the place at which the same is conducted: *Provided*, That the provisions of this act shall not apply to physicians and surgeons exclusively engaged in the Confederate service.

XXV. Confectioners shall pay fifty dollars and two and a half per centum on the gross amount of all sales. Every person who sells at retail confectionery, sweetmeats, comfits, or other confections, in any building, shall be regarded as a confectioner under this act.

SEC. 6. And every person registered and taxed upon the gross amount of sales as aforesaid shall be required, on the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to make a list or return to the collector of the district of the gross amount of such sales as aforesaid, to wit: From the passage of this act to the thirtieth day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, inclusive; and at the end of every three months, or within ten days thereafter, after the said first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, make a list or return to the collector of the district of the gross amount of such sales made as aforesaid, with the amount of tax which has accrued or should accrue thereon, which list shall have annexed thereto a declaration, under oath or affirmation, in form and manner as may be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, that the same is true and correct, and shall, at the same time as aforesaid, pay to the collector the amount of tax thereupon as aforesaid, and in default thereof shall pay a penalty in double the amount of the tax.

SEC. 7. That upon the salaries of all salaried persons serving in any capacity whatever, except upon the salaries of persons in the military or naval service, there shall be levied and collected a tax of one per centum on the gross amount of such salary, when not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars, and two per centum upon any excess over that amount, to be levied and collected at the end of each year in the manner prescribed for other taxes enumerated in this act: *Provided*, That no taxes shall be imposed by virtue of this act on the salary of any person receiving a salary not exceeding one thousand dollars per annum, or at a like rate for another period of time, longer or shorter.

SEC. 8. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause to be assessed and ascertained on the first of January next, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the income and profits derived by each person, joint stock company, and corporation, from every occupation, employment, or business in which they may have been engaged, and from every investment of labor, skill, property, or money, and the income and profits derived from any source whatever, during the calendar year preceding the said first day of January next, and the said income and profits shall be ascertained, assessed, and taxed in the manner hereinafter prescribed.

I. If the income be derived from the rents of houses, lands, tenements, manufacturing or mining establishments, fixtures and machinery, mills, springs of salt or oil, or veins of coal, iron, or other minerals, there shall be deducted from the gross amount of the annual rent a sum sufficient for the necessary annual repairs, not exceeding ten per centum on said rent, except that the rent derived from houses shall be subject to a deduction not exceeding five per centum for annual repairs.

II. If the income be derived from any manufacturing or mining business, there shall be deducted from the gross value of the products of the year, first, the rent of the establishment and fixtures, if actually rented, and not owned by the person prosecuting the business; second, the cost of the labor actually hired and paid for; third, the actual cost of the raw material purchased and manufactured.

III. If the income be derived from navigating enterprises, there shall be deducted from the gross earnings, including the value of freights on goods shipped by the person running the vessel, the hire of the boat or vessel, if not owned by the person running the same, or if owned by him a reasonable allowance for the wear and tear of the same, not exceeding ten per centum per annum, and also the cost of running the boat or vessel.

IV. If the income be derived by the taxpayer from shipbuilding, there shall be deducted from the gross receipts of his occupation, including the value of the ship when finished, if built for himself, the cost of the labor actually hired and paid by himself, and the prime cost of the materials if purchased by him.

V. If the income be derived by the taxpayer from the sale of merchandise or any

other property, real or personal, there shall be deducted from the gross amount of sales, the prime cost of the property sold, including the cost of transportation, salaries of clerks actually paid, and the rent of buildings employed in the business, if hired and not owned by himself.

VI. If the income be derived by the taxpayer from any other occupation, profession, employment, or business, there shall be deducted from the gross amount of fees, compensation, profits, earnings, or commissions, the salaries of clerks actually paid and the rent of the office or other building used in the business, if hired and not owned by himself, the cost of labor actually paid and not owned by himself, and the cost of material other than machinery purchased for the use of his business, or to be converted into some other form in the course of his business; and in case of mutual insurance companies, the amount of losses paid by them during the year. The income derived from all other sources shall be subject to no deduction whatever, except the interest on Confederate bonds, stocks, and call certificates, which shall be exempt from taxation. Nor shall foreigners be subject to a tax from any other income than that derived from property owned or occupations or employments pursued by them within the Confederate States. When the income shall be thus ascertained, all of those which do not exceed five hundred dollars per annum shall be exempt from taxation. All incomes received during the year between five hundred dollars and fifteen hundred dollars shall pay a tax of five per centum on their amount, and all incomes received during the year between fifteen hundred dollars and ten thousand dollars shall pay a tax of ten per centum on their amount. All incomes received during the year between ten thousand dollars and fifteen thousand dollars shall pay a tax of twelve and a half per centum on their amount, and all incomes received during the year of more than fifteen thousand dollars shall pay a tax of fifteen per centum upon their amount. All joint stock companies and corporations shall reserve one-tenth of the annual earnings set apart for dividend and reserved fund, to be paid to the collector of the Confederate tax, and the dividend then paid to the stockholder shall not be estimated as a part of his income for the purposes of this act. The tax hereby laid shall be payable on the first of January next. All persons shall give in an estimate of their income and profits derived from any other source whatever, and in doing so shall first state the gross amount of their receipts as individuals or members of a firm or partnership, and also state particularly each item for which a deduction is to be made and the amount to be deducted for it: *Provided, however,* That the incomes and profits of farmers and planters derived from the nine-tenths of the wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, hay, fodder, sugar, cotton, wool, tobacco, pease, ground pease, beans, or bacon, left in the hands of said farmers and planters, after deducting the one-tenth hereafter required to be paid in kind to the Government, and of the horses, mules, and asses by persons raising the same, herein taxed, are hereby excepted from any other tax under this act: *Provided further,* That in case the annual earnings of said joint stock companies and corporations set apart as aforesaid shall give a profit of more than ten and less than twenty per centum upon their capital stock paid in, one-eighth of said sum so set apart shall be paid as a tax to the collector aforesaid, and in case said sum so set apart shall give a profit of more than twenty per centum on their capital stock paid in, one-sixth thereof shall be reserved and paid as aforesaid.

SEC. 9. That if the assessor shall be dissatisfied with the statement or estimate of income and profits derived from any source whatever, other than products in kind, which the taxpayer is required to render, or with any deduction claimed by said taxpayer, he shall select one disinterested citizen of the vicinage as a referee, and the taxpayer shall select another, and the two thus selected shall call in a third, who shall investigate and determine the facts in reference to said estimate and deductions, and fix the amount of income and profits on which the taxpayer shall be assessed, and a certificate signed by a majority of the referees shall be conclusive as to the amount of income and profits on which the taxpayer shall be assessed: *Provided,* That if any person shall fail or refuse to render the statement or estimate aforesaid, or shall fail or refuse to select a referee as aforesaid, the assessor shall select three referees, who shall fix the amount of income and profits on which the taxpayer shall be assessed from the best evidence they can obtain, and a certificate signed by a majority of said referees shall be conclusive on the taxpayer: *And provided further,* That in any case submitted to referees, if they or a majority of them shall find and certify that the statement or estimate of income and profits rendered by the taxpayer does not contain more than four-fifths of the true and real amount of his taxable income and profits, then the taxpayer, in addition to the income tax on the true amount of his income and profits ascertained and assessed by the referees, shall pay ten per centum on the amount of said income tax, and the assessor shall be entitled to one-fifth of said additional ten per centum over and above all other fees

and allowances: *And provided further*, That the assessor may administer oaths to the referees, the taxpayer, and any witness before the referees in regard to said estimate, and any deduction claimed or any fact in reference thereto, in such form as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

SEC. 10. Each farmer and planter in the Confederate States, after reserving for his own use one hundred bushels of the corn and thirty bushels of the wheat produced in the present year, shall pay and deliver to the Confederate Government, of the products of the present year, one-tenth of the wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, or rice, and of the cured hay and fodder; also one-tenth of the sugar, molasses made of cane, cotton, wool, and tobacco; the cotton ginned and packed in some secure manner, and tobacco shipped and packed in boxes, to be delivered by him on or before the first day of March in the next year. Each farmer or planter, after reserving twenty bushels of pease and beans, but not more than twenty bushels of both, for his own use, shall deliver to the Confederate Government, for its use, one-tenth of the pease, beans, and ground pease produced and gathered by him during the present year. As soon as the aforesaid crops are made ready for market, the tax assessor, in case of disagreement between him and the taxpayer, shall proceed to estimate the same in the following manner: The assessor and the taxpayer shall each select a disinterested freeholder from the vicinage, who may call in a third in case of a difference of opinion, to settle the matter in dispute; or if the taxpayer neglects or refuses to select one such freeholder, the said assessor shall select two, who shall proceed to assess the crops as herein provided. If the crops are gathered, they shall ascertain the amount, either by actual measurement or by computing the contents of the rooms or houses in which they are held, when a correct computation is practicable by such a method, and the appraisers shall then estimate, under oath, the quantity and quality of said crops, including what may have been sold or consumed by the producer prior to said estimate, whether gathered or not, and the value of the portion thereof to which the Government is entitled, and shall give a written statement of this estimate to the said collector and a copy of the same to the producer. The said producer shall be required to deliver the wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, rice, pease, beans, cured hay and fodder, sugar, molasses of cane, wool, and tobacco, thus to be paid as a tithe in kind, in such form and ordinary marketable condition as may be usual in the section in which they are to be delivered, and the cotton in such manner as hereinbefore provided, within two months from the time they have been estimated as aforesaid, at some depot not more than eight miles from the place of production, and if not delivered by that time in such order, he shall be liable to pay fifty per centum more than the estimated value of the portion aforesaid, to be collected by the tax collector, as hereinafter prescribed: *Provided*, The Government shall be bound to furnish to the producer sacks for the delivery of such articles of grain as require to be put in sacks for transportation. The said estimate shall be conclusive evidence of the amount in money of tax due by the producer to the Government, and the collector is hereby authorized to proceed to collect the same by issuing a warrant of distress from his office, under his signature, in the nature of a writ of *fiery facias*, and by virtue of the same to seize and sell any personal property on the premises of the taxpayer or elsewhere belonging to him, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the purpose of paying the tax and the additional fifty per centum aforesaid and costs; and said sale shall be made in the manner and form and after the notice required by the laws of the several States for judicial sales of personal property, and the said warrant of distress may be executed by the tax collector or any deputy by him appointed for that purpose, and the deputy executing the warrant shall be entitled to the same fees as are allowed in the respective States to sheriffs executing writs of *fiery facias*, said fees to be paid as costs by the taxpayer: *Provided*, That in all cases where the assessor and the taxpayer agree on the assessment of the crops and the value of the portion thereof to which the Government is entitled, no other assessment shall be necessary; but the estimate agreed on shall be reduced to writing and signed by the assessor and taxpayer and have the same force and effect as the assessment and estimate of disinterested freeholders hereinbefore mentioned; and two copies of such assessment and estimate thus agreed on and signed as aforesaid shall be made, and one delivered to the producer and the other to the collector: *And provided further*, That the assessor is hereby authorized to administer oaths to the taxpayers and to witnesses in regard to any item of the estimate herein required to be made: *And provided further*, When agricultural produce in kind is paid for taxes, if payment be made by a tenant who is bound to pay his rent in kind, the tenth part of said rent in kind shall be paid in kind by the tenant to the Government as and for the tax of the lessor on said rent, and the receipt of the Government officer shall release the lessor from all obligation to include said rent in kind in his statement of income and discharge the tenant from so much of his rent to the lessor.

SEC. 11. That every farmer, planter, or grazier shall exhibit to the assessor, on or before the first of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, an account of all the hogs he may have slaughtered since the passage of this act and before that time; after the delivery of this estimate to the post quartermaster hereinafter mentioned, by the assessor, the said farmer, planter, or grazier shall deliver an equivalent for one-tenth of the same in cured bacon, at the rate of sixty pounds of bacon to the one hundred weight of pork. That on the first of November next, and each year thereafter, an estimate shall be made, as hereinbefore provided, of the value of all the neat cattle, horses, mules, and asses owned by each person in the Confederate States, and upon such value the said owners shall be taxed one per centum, to be paid on or before the first day of January next ensuing. If the grazier or planter or farmer shall have sold beeves since the passage of this act, and prior to the first day of November, the gross proceeds of such sales shall be estimated and taxed as income after deducting therefrom the money actually paid for the purchase of such beeves, if they have been actually purchased, and the value of the corn consumed by them. The estimate of these items shall be made in case of disagreement between the assessor and taxpayer as herein prescribed in other cases of income tax; and on each succeeding first day of November, the beeves sold during the preceding twelve months shall be estimated and taxed in the same manner.

SEC. 12. That the Secretary of War shall divide the service of the Quartermaster's Department into two branches, one for the collection of the articles paid for taxes in kind, herein denominated post quartermaster, and the other for distribution to the proper points for supplying the Army and for delivering cotton and tobacco to the agents of the Secretary of the Treasury. The tax assessor shall transfer the estimate of articles due from each person, by way of a tax in kind, to the duly authorized post quartermaster, taking from the said quartermaster a receipt which shall be filed as a voucher with the chief collector in settling his account, and a copy of this receipt shall be furnished by the chief collector to the auditor settling the post quartermaster's account as a charge against him. The post quartermaster receiving the estimate shall collect from the taxpayer the articles which it specifies, and which he is bound to pay and deliver as a tax to the Confederate Government. The post quartermaster shall be liable for the safe custody of the articles placed in his care, and shall account for the same by showing that, after proper deductions from unavoidable loss, the residue has been delivered to the distributing agents as evidenced by their receipts. The said post quartermaster shall also state the accounts of the quartermasters receiving from him the articles delivered in payment of taxes in kind at his depot, and make a monthly report of the same to such officer as the Secretary of War may designate: *Provided*, That in case the post quartermaster shall be unable to collect the tax in kind, specified in the estimate delivered to him as aforesaid, he shall deliver to the district tax collector said estimate as a basis for the distress warrant authorized to be issued, and take a receipt therefor, and forward the same to the chief tax collector as a credit in the statement of the accounts of said post quartermaster: *Provided*, That any partial payment of said tax in kind shall be indorsed on said estimate before delivering the same to the district tax collector as aforesaid, and the receipt given to him therefor by the district tax collector shall specify said partial payment. When the articles thus collected through the payment of taxes in kind have been received at the depot as aforesaid, they shall be distributed to the agents of the Secretary of the Treasury, if they consist of cotton, wool, or tobacco, or to such places, if they be suitable for forage or subsistence, and in such manner as the Secretary of War may prescribe. Should the Secretary of War find that some of the agricultural produce thus paid in and suitable for forage and subsistence has been deposited in places where it can not be used, either directly or indirectly, for these purposes, he shall cause the same to be sold in such manner as he may prescribe, and the proceeds of such sale shall be paid into the Treasury of the Confederate States. Should, however, the Secretary of War notify the Secretary of the Treasury that it would be impracticable for him to collect or use the articles taxed in kind to be received in certain districts or localities, then the Secretary of the Treasury shall proceed to collect in said districts or localities the money value of said articles specified in said estimate, and said money value shall be due on the first day of January in each and every year, and be collected as soon thereafter as practicable.

SEC. 13. That the estimates of incomes and profits, other than those payable in kind, and the statements or bills for the amount of the specific tax on occupations, employments, business, and professions, and of taxes on gross sales, shall be delivered by the assessor to the collector of the district, who shall give him a receipt for the same, and the said assessor shall file his receipt with the chief tax collector of the State, and the collector of the district, holding said estimates, statements, or bills, shall proceed to collect the same from the taxpayer. The money thus collected shall

be paid to the chief tax collector of the State, accompanied by the estimates, statements, or bills aforesaid, delivered by assessor to the district collector as aforesaid.

SEC. 14. That every person who as trustee, guardian, tutor, curator or committee, executor or administrator, or as agent, attorney in fact or factor, of any person or persons, whether residing in the Confederate States or not, and every receiver in chancery, clerk, register, or other officer of any court, shall be answerable for the doing of all such acts, matters, and things as shall be required to be done in order to the assessment of the money, property, products, and income under their control and the payment of taxes thereon, and shall be indemnified against all and every person for all payments on account of the taxes herein specified, and shall be responsible for all taxes due from the estates, income, money, or property in their possession or under their control.

SEC. 15. The income and moneys of hospitals, churches, schools, and colleges which have been endowed shall be exempt from taxation under the provisions of this act.

SEC. 16. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to make all rules and regulations necessary to the operation of this act, and not inconsistent herewith.

SEC. 17. This act shall be in force for two years after the expiration of the present year, and the taxes herein imposed for the present year shall be levied and collected each year thereafter in the manner and form herein prescribed, and for the said time of two years, unless this act shall be sooner repealed: *Provided*, The tax on naval stores, flour, wool, cotton, tobacco, and other agricultural products of the growth of any year preceding the year eighteen hundred and sixty-three, imposed in the first section of this act, shall be levied and collected only for the present year.

Mr. Garnett demanded the question.

Upon which Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 45
Nays----- 34

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Royston, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Clapp, Conrad, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the demand for the question was sustained.

And the question being upon agreeing to the motion of Mr. Kenner to disagree to the amendment of the Senate,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays thereon:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 53
Nays----- 29 [30]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Currin, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Goode, Gray,

Hanly, Hilton, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion to disagree prevailed.

Mr. Arrington moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Upon motion of Mr. Foote, the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. Dargan moved that a committee of conference be appointed on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

The motion prevailed, and

The Speaker announced the following as the managers upon the part of the House at said conference: Messrs. Kenner of Louisiana, Lyon of Alabama, and Garnett of Virginia.

On motion of Mr. Curry, the forty-second rule was suspended, and the Clerk of the House was notified to inform the Senate immediately of the action of the House.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the last secret session; which was the consideration of the motion of Mr. Swan to lay on the table the resolution reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs in relation to the States of the Northwest and the pending war.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 36
Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Bridgers, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Kenan of Georgia, Marshall, Martin, McLean, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Collier, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Herbert, Hodge, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Read, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the original report of the committee by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Joint resolutions on the subject of the war and in regard to the free navigation of the Mississippi River,

Whereas the earnest efforts made by the Government of the Confederate States, immediately upon its organization, "to establish friendly relations between it and the Government of the United States, and to settle all questions of disagreement between them upon principles of right, equity, and good faith, 'having proved unavailing by reason' of the refusal of the Government of the United States to hold intercourse with the commissioners appointed by the Confederate Government for the purposes aforesaid, or to listen to any proposals for a peaceful solution of all causes of differences between them;" and

Whereas the Government of the United States having waged war against the Confederate States with a purpose to reduce them to the condition of conquered provinces, and having conducted it contrary to the rules of civilized nations, and the sacred rights of humanity, by the practice of every barbarity which malice and depravity could suggest, with a ferocious determination "to sacrifice to disappointed vengeance what their injustice lost and their power can not regain;" and

Whereas during a fierce and devastating struggle of two years it has pleased the Divine Ruler of the universe to thwart the plans of the wicked authors of the war, and to bless the armies of the Confederate States with favorable results on the field of battle; and

Whereas the conviction of the people of the Confederate States in the justice of their cause is unabated and their confidence in its final triumph unshaken: Therefore,

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States, That necessity alone having forced the people of these States to take up arms to maintain their right of self-government, and in obedience to the principle of self-preservation, which, with nations, as with individuals, is the first law of nature, they will continue to make whatever sacrifice may be required for the attainment of these just ends.

Resolved, That movements having been inaugurated in several of the United States looking to an accommodation of the differences existing between the belligerents, it is the true policy of the Confederate States Government to accord a respectful consideration to any proposition having that object in view, provided it is consistent with the design to preserve its separate national character.

Be it further resolved, That whenever any one or more of the said States bordering on the Mississippi River shall desist from this unprovoked war upon the Confederate States, the Government of these States is prepared to waive, for the benefit of the said States, its right, according to the well-settled principle of international law, to the sole and exclusive navigation of that portion of the said stream which flows within the limits of its territories, and to secure to them the free navigation thereof by treaty stipulation as they have already provided for by legal enactment.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Barksdale by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States—

First. That we hereby declare our unalterable purpose to prosecute the present war, and endure all the sacrifices and sufferings it may involve, until our right to self-government and the sovereignty and independence of the Confederate States shall be fully vindicated and established.

Second. That as the war forced upon the Confederate States is not waged by them for any purpose of aggression or conquest, or from any feeling of malice, but solely to vindicate their rights of self-government and to protect their homes and property, we deem it not unfit or unmanly to declare our readiness to negotiate for peace upon honorable and just terms, whenever it shall be sought by any of the States now warring against us, and especially if such propositions shall emanate from the States north and west of the Ohio River, whose rights to a free navigation of the Mississippi River and whose vast interests of trade have been sacrificed by the tyrannical and usurping despotism of Abraham Lincoln to subserve the ends and gratify the wishes of a corrupt and fanatical party.

Third. That if such States shall by negotiation with the Confederate States evince a desire and purpose to enjoy a free navigation of the Mississippi River, and seek their true commercial interests as pointed out and controlled by physical geography, by productions, by the natural laws of trade, and shall, in consequence thereof, be exposed to the hostility of the Government at Washington, the Confederate States [will] cheerfully render such military aid as may be necessary to defeat a common enemy and to conquer an honorable peace.

Fourth. That the overthrow of all of the safeguards of liberty and the subversion of constitutional restraints by the Government of the United States afford the most conclusive vindication of the sagacity and patriotism of our people in resisting the first stealthy progress of approaching despotism; that the wisdom of our course in consulting the plainest instincts of self-preservation must be apparent to many citizens of the United States, who are restive under the arbitrary invasions of their most sacred and covenanted rights; and that the manly struggles of Northern patriots in defiance of a strong military despotism, to recover for themselves constitutional liberty, entitle them justly to the sympathy of the friends of good government throughout the world.

Mr. De Jarnette moved to amend the original report of the committee by striking out the word "west;" also striking out the words "the United States" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "New England."

Mr. Swan demanded the previous question.

The main question was not ordered.

Mr. Holt moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a resolution to permit Mr. De Jarnette to continue his remarks without limit.

Upon which Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 39
Nays 25

Yeas: Ashe, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clark, Clopton, Curry, Davis, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Hanly, Heiskell, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Marshall, McLean, McRae, Menees, Ralls, Read, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, and Strickland.

So the motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 115. An act to appropriate ten millions of dollars to pay for the construction, armament, and equipment of ten ironclad war ships in southern Europe;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Foster moved to lay the resolution and amendments on the table.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 44
Nays 24 [25]

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Chilton, Clapp, Curry, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hodge, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Menees, Moore, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, and Villeré.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Foote moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Singleton moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The motion prevailed.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate insist on their amendment to the bill of the House to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, agree to the conference asked for by the House of Representatives on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Barnwell, Mr. Semmes, and Mr. Clay as managers at the same on their part.

And on motion of Mr. Curry,

The House resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTY-FIFTH DAY—TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 10, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of Gen. Braxton Bragg's reports of several battles.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented the following communication from the President:

RICHMOND, VA., April 11, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering estimates for the support of the Government from July 1 to December 31, 1863, in compliance with resolutions adopted, respectively, by the Senate and House of Representatives.

I recommend that appropriations be made of the amounts for the purposes specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and, on motion of Mr. Kenner, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The Chair announced as the special committee on the bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States, approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," Messrs. Lyons of Virginia, Garland of Arkansas, Gray of Texas, Clapp of Mississippi, and Hodge of Kentucky.

Mr. Goode offered a resolution that 500 extra copies of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting estimates for the support of the Government for the first half of the ensuing fiscal year, together with its accompanying documents, be printed; which was read and referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Perkins, from the special committee to investigate the conduct of the chief collector of the war tax, made a report; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was joint resolutions in relation to martial law.

The question being on reconsidering the vote by which the same were postponed and placed upon the Calendar,

Mr. Foster demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Chambers demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 49
Nays 24

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Crompton, Collier, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette,

Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Barksdale, Batson, Conrad, Conrow, Ewing, Freeman, Graham, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McKae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Royston, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion prevailed.

The question recurring on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved that the resolutions be recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the motion by instructing the committee as follows, viz:

That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to consider—

First. Whether, under the Constitution of the Confederate States, there is any such thing as martial law, beyond the Articles of War, and other enactments of Congress in regard to the military law, and especially whether there is any power in any commanding general, or in the President, to make the will of such commanding general the law.

Second. Whether trials by military commissions, as contradistinguished from courts-martial, are lawful under the Constitution and laws.

Third. Whether a general in command in a State, district, or department commands only the troops in that department and the followers and retainers of the camp, or whether he is also in command of the people, and in effect the military governor of such State, district, or department.

Fourth. To revise whatever enactments may exist on the subject of military law; prepare a code of martial law, defining each offense punishable under it, prescribing the mode of trial and the punishment, declaring in what cases and for what offenses a general or other officer may inflict the punishment of death, or other severe punishment, without any trial whatever, directing also under what circumstances and by whom martial law may be declared, the local extent of its jurisdiction and the persons to be subject to it, and what shall be the rights and liabilities on the part of both the Confederate Government, the State and its citizens, when such martial law shall be proclaimed.

And report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Atkins demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The motion to recommit as amended was lost, and the joint resolutions were engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Clark demanded the question: which was on the passage of the same.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	45
Nays	27

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clapton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Holcombe, Marshall, McLean, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Barksdale, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Graham, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia,

Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Royston, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the joint resolutions were passed.

Mr. Foster moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the joint resolutions were passed.

On motion of Mr. Collier, the motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.

Mr. Garnett moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with an amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 14. An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property.

They have also passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 68. An act to abolish all ports of delivery in the Confederate States; and

S. 89. An act to abolish supernumerary offices in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments;

In which bills and amendment I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

They insist upon their amendment to the bill of the House (H. R. 29) to amend an act entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers," approved May 21, 1861, agree to the conference asked by the House of Representatives on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Hill, Mr. Semmes, and Mr. Dortch as managers at the same on their part.

Mr. Curry, from the Committee on Commerce, to which was referred

A bill to regulate the navigation of the Confederate States and to establish direct trade with foreign nations.

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill to establish a port of entry at Columbia, S. C., reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Royston, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, reported

A bill to prescribe the rates of postage on newspapers, periodicals, books, transient and other printed matter, and to repeal the second section of the act approved May 13, 1861, to amend an act to prescribe the rates of postage in the Confederate States of America, and for other purposes, approved February 23, 1861; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Vest moved that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was lost.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the title of the same was amended by inserting after the word "repeal" the words "in part."

And the title as amended was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Royston, the forty-second rule was suspended for the remainder of the session, and the Clerk was directed to report the bill immediately to the Senate.

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, reported

A bill to establish certain post routes therein named; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Royston, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate to authorize newspapers to be mailed [to soldiers] free of postage, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table.

The question being on agreeing to the report,

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 11
 } Nays ----- 48

Yeas: Chilton, Curry, Elliott, Herbert, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, and Simpson.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clifton, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the report of the committee was disagreed to.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all newspapers directed to any officer, musician, or private engaged in the actual service of the Confederate States may be transmitted through the mails free of postage: Provided, That in all such cases the address shall contain a description of the party to whom such newspaper shall be sent, stating his military title, if an officer, or the company and regiment to which he belongs, if a musician or private: And provided also, That this act shall not be construed to extend to newspapers transmitted by carriers or express companies, or received through them,

Mr. Davis moved to amend the bill by adding thereto, as an additional section, the following, to wit:

Be it further enacted, That the amount of the postage on all papers thus sent to such soldiers shall be a charge upon the Treasury of the Confederate States of America, and paid upon the draft of the Postmaster-General.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the amendment by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

Be it further enacted, That the sum of five hundred thousand dollars be appropriated and placed to the credit of the Post-Office Department as a compensation for the free transportation of mail matter authorized by this act.

Mr. Swan demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered.

Mr. Royston demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not seconded.

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Royston demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill was lost.

The hour of half past 3 having arrived,

The House took a recess, under the rule, until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having again met,

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to repeal section two of an act entitled 'An act relating to the prepayment of postage in certain cases,' approved July twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton also, from the same committee, to which was referred a memorial of sundry route agents, praying an increase of compensation, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A joint resolution authorizing the Postmaster-General to use certain revenues of the Post-Office Department in payment of its liabilities, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means; which was agreed to.

Mr. Conrow, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution allowing further time for certain claimants to present claims against the Post-Office Department,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Singleton, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a Bureau of Indian Affairs,'" reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Elliott, from the same committee, reported

A bill to provide further payment of the interest on the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Read demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not seconded, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Read, from the Committee on Patents, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act relating to appeals from the Commissioner of Patents," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

Also, a House bill, returned from the Senate with an amendment, entitled "An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property:" which was referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, reported back and recommended the passage, with an amendment, of a bill to refund to the State of Alabama the sum paid by said State for the steamer Florida.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the sum of _____ dollars be paid, out of any money in the Treasury of the Confederate States not otherwise appropriated, to the proper authorities of the State of Alabama, being the sum paid by said State for the steamer Florida, which vessel was turned over by said State to the Confederate States for a gunboat,

The committee moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That the Secretary of the Treasury pay to the proper authorities of the State of Alabama the sum of ninety thousand dollars, being the sum paid by said State for the steamer Florida, which vessel was turned over by said State to the Confederate States for a gunboat.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the said sum of ninety thousand dollars be paid in bonds of the Confederate States, bearing interest at the rate of eight per centum per annum and payable at not less than twenty nor more than thirty years, and redeemable at the option of the Government after five years; which bonds the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the bill by filling the blank therein with the words "ninety thousand dollars;" which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the rule requiring the consideration of the bill in Committee of the Whole was suspended.

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Holt demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 61
Nays 4

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Bridgers, Machen, and Smith of North Carolina.

So the amendment of the committee was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 56
Nays 6

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McLean,

McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Jones, Machen, and Perkins.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Clopton, the title of the bill was amended by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

An act to liquidate a claim due to the State of Alabama for the steamer Florida.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with an amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 20. An act to allow commutation for clothing to the militia in actual service of the Confederate States;

In which amendment I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 4th instant, approve and sign a joint resolution (S. 8) relating to the production of provisions.

On the 11th instant, the President approved and signed an act entitled

S. 114. An act for the relief of certain officers of the Navy and of the Marine Corps; also

S. 10. A joint resolution authorizing the Postmaster-General to extend the time for receiving bids for transportation of the mails in the States therein named.

Mr. McLean, from the Committee on Claims, reported back and recommended the passage of a joint resolution of the Senate for the relief of Capt. John F. Divine.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was taken up, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, reported joint resolutions to provide for the payment of certain accounts of the acting quartermaster and other officers of the Indian troops; which were read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolutions were engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, reported

A joint resolution for the relief of H. H. Epping; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was taken up, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Clopton also, from the same committee, reported

A bill for the relief of John Prosser Tabb; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Clapp, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill for the relief of S. B. Lowe,
reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the Treasurer of the Confederate States be, and is hereby, authorized to pay over to S. B. Lowe, or to his legal representatives, the sum of *dollars, the amount paid by S. B. Lowe and Company as duties on certain railroad cars entered at the port of New Orleans on the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-one,*

Mr. Clopton, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the same as follows, to wit: By filling the blank with the words "twenty-three hundred and sixty-one dollars and sixty cents."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

The rule requiring the consideration of the bill in Committee of the Whole was suspended, and the Constitution requiring that the vote upon the passage of the bill shall be taken by yeas and nays.

The same are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	53
Nays	2

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Dupré and Smith of North Carolina.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, reported

A joint resolution to authorize payment for articles supplied the cutter Morgan; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was taken up, and having been read as follows, viz: ^a

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the same by striking out the word "Navy" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "Treasury;" which was agreed to.

The rule requiring the consideration of the joint resolution in Committee of the Whole was suspended.

Mr. Clopton moved to amend the same by striking out the words "and pay;" which was agreed to.

The title of the same being under consideration,

Mr. Clopton moved to amend the same by striking out all of the original and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:^b

^a The resolution is not recorded in the Journal.

^b The amendment is not recorded in the Journal.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 17. A bill to be entitled "An act to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, to which was referred the following memorials, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to, to wit:

Memorial of Appleton Haygood, praying the payment of sums due him on mail contract with the United States;

Memorial of Joseph S. Walthall, praying compensation for services rendered in the Army;

Memorial of Col. Wharton J. Green, praying compensation for property taken by the enemy at the battle of Roanoke Island;

Memorial of Gus Hodge and S. H. McFarland for services rendered in the purchase of mules for the Army;

Memorial of James M. Lilley in relation to the sequestration law;

Memorial of the county of New Kent for relief for the burning of the county jail by Confederate troops;

Memorial of John R. Bagby, praying reimbursement for a horse lost in the service;

Memorial of Mrs. S. A. Britton for loss of property taken by the Confederate Army June 30, 1862;

Memorial of Capt. George Holmes in relation to the settlement of his accounts;

Memorial of W. O. Girardeau in relation to his compensation as enrolling officer;

Memorial of F. C. Shepherd, praying reimbursement for money destroyed by fire;

Memorial of Dr. Henry Perkins, praying compensation for property seized by officers of the Confederate Government;

Memorial of William R. Ashton, praying compensation for property impressed;

Memorial of John A. Simpson, praying compensation for taking census of 1860 in Fulton County, Ark.;

Memorial of Capt. G. W. Maxson, praying reimbursement for clothing lost while in the service;

Memorial of Dr. John A. Barnes, praying compensation for services rendered as assistant surgeon; and

Memorial of John M. Burns and James M. Smith, praying remuneration for provisions furnished the Army.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House:

S. 80. An act to increase the efficiency of the Medical Department; and

S. 92. An act to prescribe the rates of postage on newspapers, periodicals, books, and transient and other matter.

Mr. Lyons moved that the memorial of the county of New Kent, Va., praying reimbursement for the destruction of the county jail, reported back unfavorably from the Committee on Claims, be recommended to that committee.

Mr. Machen demanded the question; which was ordered, and Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays.
The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yeas	9
Nays	56

Yeas: Horatio W. Bruce, Collier, Goode, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, and Miller.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Courrow, Curry, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Pugh, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon a bill defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States, reported as follows, viz:

The committee of conference on the part of the House of Representatives on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill entitled "A bill to be entitled 'An act defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States,'" have met the committee of the Senate, and, after full and free conference, the said committee have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate agree to the amendment of the House to said bill with the amendments herewith submitted, and that the House of Representatives shall concur in said amendments, the bill reported by the committee being as follows, etc.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the same be printed.

Mr. Clark demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Pugh moved that 200 extra copies of the report be printed, and also that the rule requiring the reference of the motion to the Committee on Printing be suspended.

The motion was lost, and the motion to print was referred to the Committee on Printing.

On motion of Mr. Pugh, the further consideration of the report was postponed and made the special order of business for Friday next at 11 o'clock, to be continued from day to day until concluded.

Mr. Holcombe, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon a bill to amend an act entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers," approved May 21, 1861, reported as follows, to wit:

The undersigned, on the part of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, to whom the disagreement of the two Houses upon a bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers,' approved May twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," was referred, have had the same under consideration, and, after free and full conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend that the Senate recede from its amendment to the second section of said bill, and that the following be inserted at the end of said section: "*Provided*, That nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prejudice any interest which may be held by a loyal citizen of the Confederate States, other than the author, in any copyright owned by an alien enemy, or the rights of the Confederate States, under the sequestration acts, to the copies of any book, map, musical composition, print, or engraving published by an alien enemy."

Signed by the managers on the part of both Houses.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, directed to pay to J. P. Bargamin the unpaid rent due to him, and that which may hereafter become due, as it shall become due, for the building now occupied by the Quartermaster-General.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the amendment by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings be instructed to certify the claim of Mr. Bargamin, so as to authorize its payment by the Quartermaster's Department.

Mr. Swan demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

The amendment was lost, and the joint resolution was engrossed and read a third time.

The Constitution requiring that the vote on the passage of the bill shall be taken by yeas and nays.

The same are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	53
Nays	8

* Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Harris, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Batson, Dupré, Freeman, Garland, Gray, Heiskell, Perkins, and Welsh.

So the joint resolution was passed.

Mr. Harris, by consent, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill for the relief of certain officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri,

returned from the Senate with an amendment, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the House concur in the amendment of the Senate.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up, and having been read as follows:—

The amendment of the Senate having been read as follows, to wit:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert

“That the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars be, and is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay the officers and men of the Missouri State Guard (after their transfer to the Confederate States) who from imprisonment, absence, and other accidental causes have not received their pay, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of War may prescribe.”

The amendment was concurred in.

Mr. Sexton moved that the House do now adjourn.

Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained.

And the House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH DAY—THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Seeley.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to increase the efficiency of the Medical Department;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Medical Department.

The Chair also presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to lease a site near the city of Richmond for the preparation and safe-keeping of ordnance stores;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

The Chair presented a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to prescribe the rates of postage on newspapers, periodicals, books, and transient and other matter;" which was read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The Chair also presented a House bill, returned from the Senate with an amendment, entitled "An act to allow commutation for clothing to the militia in actual service of the Confederate States;" which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act to authorize the Commissioner of Patents to purchase books for the library of the Patent Office.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Clapp, from the Committee on Claims, reported

A joint resolution authorizing payment for ice purchased for the use of the Provisional Congress;

which was read the first and second times, its further consideration postponed, and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Clapp moved to reconsider the vote by which the joint resolution was placed upon the Calendar.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, to which was referred

A bill to authorize the issue of bonds to subscribers to the produce loan in certain cases,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do not pass.

The bill was postponed and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, reported back the following memorials, etc., asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to, viz:

Memorial of Joseph A. Yates, praying indemnity for the use by the Government of an invention;

Memorial of Capt. William H. Vaughn in relation to horses lost in the service;

Memorial of Capt. A. C. Van Benthuyssen, praying to be released from certain indebtedness to the Government;

Memorial of Lieut. Henry H. Cribbs for horse lost in action;

Memorial of Lieut. John P. Ellis for negro lost—in service as a musician;

Memorial of D. K. Young in relation to the burning of the County Academy at Clinton, Tenn.:

Memorial of Benjamin Hunter, praying compensation for slave lost on public works; and

Memorial of Williams & Carrington, praying compensation for tobacco destroyed by order of the Government.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to provide for the payment for horses disabled in the public service;
which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That any regular or volunteer field, staff, or other commissioned officer, mounted volunteer, ranger, cavalry[man], or mounted militiaman, engaged in the military service of the Confederate States since the fifth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, who has or shall sustain damage, without any fault or negligence on his part, while in said service, by the loss of a horse killed in battle, or by the loss of a horse wounded in battle which has died or shall die of said wound, or shall have been or shall be permanently disabled by said wound and thereby rendered unfit for service, or being so wounded shall have been or shall be abandoned by order of his immediate commanding officer and lost, shall be allowed and paid the value thereof,

Mr. Boteler moved to amend the same by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

[That so much of the seventh section of the act entitled "An act to provide for the public defense," approved March sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, as relates to compensation for horses killed in action shall be amended by substituting for the last clause in said section the following words: "For horses killed in action or unavoidably lost when the soldier is in the regular and proper discharge of his duty, volunteers, including field officers, shall be allowed compensation according to their appraised value at the date of muster into service. Horses permanently disabled in action shall be turned over to the quartermaster, to be sold for the benefit of the Confederate States, and volunteers shall be allowed compensation for them according to their appraised value at the date of muster into service."]

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the bill by inserting after the word "lost" the words

or where he shall have been dismounted and made to do duty as an infantry soldier by the order of his immediate or any commanding officer, and the loss of his horse shall have resulted therefrom without any fault or negligence on his part.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act to amend an act to establish the Bureau of Indian Affairs:

An act relating to appeals from the Commissioner of Patents:

Joint resolution for the relief of Capt. John F. Divine;

An act explanatory of an act entitled "An act to authorize the President to accept and place in the service certain regiments and battalions heretofore raised," approved October 11, 1862; also

An act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Read moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Boteler by striking out all of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:^a

^aThe amendment is not recorded in the Journal.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Ralls moved that the House reconsider the vote ordering the bill to a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Read, the motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.

Mr. Gray demanded the question: which was on the passage of the bill.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yea	48
Nay	27

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Currin, De Jarnette, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boyce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Gray, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Strickland, and Villeré.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Chilton moved that the House reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Davis moved that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 19. An act to establish a niter and mining bureau.

They have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 13. An act in relation to the public printing;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

They have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the bill (H. R. 29) to amend an act entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers."

The question being on the motion to reconsider,

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yea	38
Nay	36

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Davis, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gray, Harris, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Baldwin, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Collier, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Jones, Lyons, Martin.

Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Chilton,

The House took up from the table the motion to reconsider the third reading of the bill, and the motion prevailed.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Read; which was agreed to.

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the same by adding thereto the following proviso, to wit:

And provided, That in no case shall any horse be paid for under the provisions of this act at a greater value than four hundred dollars.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the amendment as follows, to wit:^a

On motion of Mr. Sexton, the main question was ordered.

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The amendment as amended was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Read demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 53
Nays ----- 20

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Currin, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Strickland, Swan, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boyce, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Freeman, Gray, Harris, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Perkins, Royston, and Villeré.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the title of the same by inserting therein, after the word "disabled," the words "or lost;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers moved that the House reconsider the vote postponing and placing upon the Calendar

A bill to authorize the issue of bonds to subscribers to the produce loan in certain cases.

Pending which,

The House took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m., under the rule;

And having again met,

Mr. Kenner demanded the question.

The question was ordered.

Mr. Chambers demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 23 [25]
Nays ----- 34 [33]

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Currin, Davis, Foster, Graham, Hanly, Harris,

^a The amendment is not recorded in the Journal.

Hartridge, Heiskell, Lewis, Menees, Perkins, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Garland, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Keman of North Carolina, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Read, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Clapp, from the Committee on Claims, to which was referred the petition of Gary Grice, made a report, to wit:

[*Mr. Speaker:* The Committee on Claims have had under consideration the petition of Gary Grice, a citizen of Spalding County, State of Georgia, and have instructed me to report:

That the case presented in the petition is one well calculated to excite the sympathy and admiration of the committee and of the country, it appearing that the petitioner, who is over 68 years of age, entered the service as a private in the Spalding Grays at the commencement of the war, and continued to serve faithfully in that capacity until a recent period, performing long and arduous marches and undergoing hardships well calculated to tax the endurance of one in the prime of life. It also appears that the two and only sons of the petitioner have devoted themselves to the service of their country, and that the petitioner is in indigent circumstances, with a family to support.

A stronger appeal to the generosity of Congress could not well be presented, and deserves, as the committee think, a special notice, but the constitutional inhibition against the granting of bounties by Congress being imperative, the committee, on this ground, are compelled to report unfavorably to the prayer of the petitioner for a donation, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition.

CLAPP.]

which was read, ordered to be printed, and laid upon the table.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, to which was referred

A bill for the relief of Lieut. Thomas T. Kirtland,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

Whereas it is alleged and claimed by Lieutenant Thomas T. Kirtland, of Company B, Walker's Fortieth Tennessee Regiment, that he did, in the months of February and March, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, muster into the service of the Confederate States for the term of three years, or the war, fifteen recruits, and did pay to each and every of said recruits the sum of fifty dollars each, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars, and did also pay for clothing, which was distributed to said recruits, the sum of six hundred and fifty-four dollars; and

Whereas the said Lieutenant Kirtland, together with the said recruits, were surrendered as prisoners of war to the Federal forces at Island No. 10, in the Mississippi River, on the eighth day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and was detained and confined as a prisoner until the month of September following; and during his said confinement he was deprived by the soldiers or authorities of the United States of the said receipts for bounty and clothing, and on account of the death of the greater number of said recruits during their said imprisonment and the taking of the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States by the balance of them, it is now impossible for the said Lieutenant Kirtland to procure new receipts and descriptive rolls, all of which facts appear by the certificate of the officers of said regiment.

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That in the absence of receipts and descriptive rolls the proper accounting officers be authorized to adjust and liquidate the claims of Lieutenant Thomas T. Kirtland for the disbursements aforesaid, upon the next best evidence that he may be able to adduce,

The committee moved to amend the bill as follows, to wit:

Provided, That for the disbursements made by said Lieutenant Thomas T. Kirtland for clothing furnished said recruits he shall not receive a sum exceeding the amount of commutation money at that time allowed by the existing laws; and that he be further required to furnish to the proper officer a satisfactory list so mustered into service by him, and to whom bounty money and clothing was furnished as aforesaid. *And provided further*, That the commutation in money has not been paid to said recruits.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the same by adding thereto the words

Provided, The evidence presented shall satisfy the auditor that the claim is equitable and just;

which was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the preamble by inserting after the word "Whereas" the words "it is alleged and claimed by."

The amendment was agreed to, and the preamble as amended was engrossed.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Dupré, from the Committee on Printing, to which was referred two bills, each entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to provide for the safe custody, printing, publication, and distribution of the laws, and to provide for the appointment of an additional clerk in the Department of Justice,' approved August fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that they lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré, from the same committee, reported

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the safe custody, printing, publication, and distribution of the laws, and to provide for the appointment of an additional clerk in the Department of Justice," approved August 5, 1861;

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the third section of the said act be so amended as to provide for the publication of five thousand, instead of three thousand, copies of the said laws; and the sixth section be so amended as to provide for the distribution of ten copies of the laws to each member of Congress, and one hundred copies to each of the governors of the several States for the use of the States.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That from the remaining copies of the said laws, now preserved in the Department of Justice, there shall be distributed five copies to each member of Congress,

Mr. Jones moved to amend the first section thereof by striking out the word "ten" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "two;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "and one hundred copies to each of the governors of the several States for the use of the States" and inserting in lieu thereof the words to the governors of the States, ten copies, and as many additional copies as will furnish one copy to each county, district, or parish in all the States of the Confederacy.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré, from the Committee on Printing, reported back and recommended the passage of a bill of the Senate entitled "An act to

provide for having the laws relating to the military and naval service digested and published."

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Dupré, the rule requiring the consideration of the bill in Committee of the Whole was suspended.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Attorney-General be, and he is hereby, directed to have made a full and complete digest of all the laws relating to military and naval affairs, including those of the present session of Congress, with notes and references to the Army and Navy Regulations and to the Articles of War.

Sec. 2. That it shall also be his duty to have _____ thousand copies thereof, when said digest is completed, printed and bound, to be furnished to the officers of the Army and Navy and to those in the executive and legislative branches of the Government at such price as he may fix, not to be less than the cost of printing and binding.

Sec. 3. That to enable the Attorney-General to have the said printing and binding done, the sum of _____ thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be paid upon the warrant or warrants of the said Attorney-General,

Mr. Curry moved to amend the first section as follows, viz: Strike out the last syllable of the word "without;" strike out the word "or" and insert in lieu thereof the word "and."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the same section by striking out the words "from the commencement of the Provisional Congress to the close of the present session;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the same section by inserting after the words "the laws" the words "and general orders of a permanent character."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the second section by striking out the word "bourgeois" and insert in lieu thereof the words "long primer."

The amendment was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 33. An act to provide for the execution of deeds by marshals in certain cases.

They have also passed a bill entitled

S. 88. An act in relation to the custody of persons charged with offenses against the Confederate States;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

They have also passed, with amendments, a bill and joint resolution of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 39. An act to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in certain Indian nations; and

H. R. 10. Joint resolution to provide for the payment of certain accounts of the acting quartermaster and other officers of the Indian troops;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the third section by striking out the words "to the military and naval officers in the service of the Confederate States;" which was agreed to.

The bill as amended was read a third time.

The Constitution requiring that the vote upon the passage of the bill shall be taken by yeas and nays,

The same are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 60
 } Nays ----- 1

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Gray.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Pugh,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business; which was on agreeing to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on a bill defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States.

Mr. Pugh demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Pugh demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 38
 } Nays ----- 31

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Curriu, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Conrow, Crockett, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Heiskell, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McQueen, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Royston, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Villeré.

So the report was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré, from the Committee on Printing, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to so amending Act No. 208 of the Provisional Congress as to provide for the printing and distribution or sale of a larger number of copies of the laws,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table: which was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution to print 500 extra copies of the bill to define who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States, together with the report of the committee of conference upon the same.

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré also, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution to print 500 extra copies of the report of the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the currency,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Boteler, from the Committee on Flag and Seal, reported

A joint resolution to establish a Confederate seal;
which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the seal of the Confederate States shall consist of a device representing an equestrian portrait of Washington (after the statue which surmounts his monument in the Capitol Square at Richmond), surrounded with a wreath composed of the principal agricultural products of the South (cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat, and rice), and having around its margin the words "Seal of the Confederate States of America, twenty-second February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," with the following motto: "Deo duce vincemus,"

Mr. Jones moved to amend the same by striking out the words "Deo duce vincemus" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "liberty and independence."

Mr. Gray moved to amend the amendment by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Fide fortis."

On motion of Mr. McRae, the main question was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:

Yeas.....	37
Nays	43

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Hanly, Harris, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Conrow, Cur-
rin, Curry, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Ewing, Garnett, Goode,
Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Johnston, Kenan of
Georgia, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, Miller,
Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Simpson,
Smith of Alabama, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

The joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 19. A bill to be entitled "An act to establish a niter and mining bureau;" also

H. R. 29. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers,' approved May twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" also

H. R. 33. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the execution of deeds by marshals in certain cases."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Wright of Georgia, from the Committee on the Medical Department, reported

A bill allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That sick or wounded officers shall be allowed hospital accommodations in any of the hospitals of the Confederate States at one dollar per diem.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, When said officer shall be without money, he shall nevertheless be entitled to the same. The surgeon in charge at the expiration of every thirty days shall state the account, and be entitled to draw the amount at any place where the officer might have drawn it, which shall be deducted from said officer's pay in the same way as if he himself had drawn it. And any officer drawing the same again shall be punished as in the case of fraudulent drawers,

Mr. Clark moved to amend the bill by striking out the words "at one dollar per day" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "at a per diem cost that shall not exceed the expenses."

The amendment was lost.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Wright, from the same committee, reported

A bill regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals;

which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same [upon the Calendar],

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That sick, wounded, and disabled soldiers in hospitals shall be entitled to furloughs and discharges under the following rules and regulations: In places where there are three or more hospitals, three surgeons in charge of hospitals or divisions in hospitals shall constitute a board of examiners for the hospitals to which they belong, whose duty it shall be twice in each week to visit said hospitals and examine applicants for furloughs or discharges; and in all cases where they shall find an applicant for furlough unfit for military duty, either from disease or wounds, and likely so to remain for thirty days or upward, they shall grant a furlough for such time as they shall deem him unfit for duty, not to exceed sixty days. Said board shall keep a secretary or clerk who shall issue all furloughs by order of the board, and shall specify therein the time of furloughs, the place of the residence of the soldier, his company, regiment, and brigade.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That no further regulation shall be required of the soldier, and no passport required other than his furlough.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the said board may recommend discharges, stating the grounds thereof, which, when approved by the Surgeon-General or the general commanding the army or department to which the soldier belongs, shall entitle him to a discharge and transportation to the place of his enlistment or residence.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That in places where there are but two hospitals, two surgeons in charge of a hospital or division shall constitute a board for the purposes aforesaid; and in places where there is but one, the surgeon in charge may furlough and recommend discharges as aforesaid.

The house surgeon in all hospitals shall see each patient under his charge once every day,

Mr. Clark moved to amend the same by striking out the whole of the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That sick, wounded, and disabled soldiers in hospitals shall be entitled to furloughs and discharges under the following rules and regulations: All hospitals having patients to the number of six hundred or upward shall organize a board of examiners from the surgeons and assistant surgeons in charge of said hospital, which board shall consist of not less than three nor more than five, and whose duty it shall be to examine applicants for furloughs and discharges. And in all cases when they shall find the applicant for furlough unfit for military duty, either from disease or wounds, and who in their opinion is likely to remain so unfit for duty for the period of thirty days or longer, the said board shall grant a furlough to such applicant for such time as they shall adjudge him unfit for duty, in no case to exceed sixty days.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of said board to examine applicants for discharge, and when they shall determine that the applicant, either from disease or wounds, is permanently unfit for military duty they shall grant a discharge.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the board to keep a secretary, who shall issue all furloughs and discharges by order of the board, and shall specify therein the place of residence of the soldier, the company, regiment, and brigade in which he performed military service. And in case of furloughs, the time for which the same was granted shall be inserted. In discharges, the disease or wound on which the discharge was based.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the board, through its secretary, each day to report fully to the commanding officer in the military district in which the hospital is located a list of the furloughs and discharges granted on the day previous.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That when the hospitals of any place do not respectively contain the number of six hundred patients it shall be the duty of the surgeons in charge of two or more of such hospitals nearest each other to unite in forming a board of examiners, with the same powers as set out in section one, and such board so constituted shall be the examiners of all and each hospital represented on the board.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That in places where there is but one hospital, and when the number of patients do not reach six hundred, the medical director shall appoint one or more fit and proper persons to associate with the surgeon in charge, and these shall fill the board from the assistant surgeons on duty in said hospital, and which board so constituted shall have the same powers as set out in the preceding sections of this bill.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the secretary of the board to procure for all discharged and furloughed soldiers passports, transportation, or any other rights or privileges to which he may be entitled.

SEC. 8. *Be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the board, in granting discharges and furloughs, to order in cases of discharge that the soldier at the end of three months report himself to the enrolling officer nearest his residence. And in case of furlough, that the soldier report to his company at or before the end of his furlough, and on failure so to do, on account of continued unfitness for duty, that he then report to the enrolling officer of his district.

Pending the consideration of which,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Harris,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of the Secretary of that body, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 25. An act to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled.

H. R. 25. An act to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Lyon, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, reported as follows, to wit:^a

Mr. Sexton moved to suspend the reading of the report of the committee.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the consideration of the report of the committee was postponed for thirty minutes for the purpose of correcting clerical errors therein, and

The House proceeded to the consideration of the special order of business, which was the consideration of joint resolution (S. 2) of the Senate relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message; which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment.

And the resolutions having been read as follows, to wit:

Joint resolution relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message.

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That, in the opinion of Congress, the right of retaliation for violations of the usages of civilized warfare is a belligerent right, and as such is confided to, and should be controlled and exercised by, the authorities of the Confederate Government; and therefore the commissioned officers of the public enemy captured in open hostility ought not to be delivered to the authorities of the several States for trial and punishment as criminals on account of any act committed in the conduct of the war by direction or order of the Government of the United States,

Mr. Davis demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of the committee, which was to strike out all of the original resolutions and to insert in lieu thereof the following, to wit:

Whereas the President in his message to this Congress, at the opening of the present session, called the attention of Congress to a proclamation dated on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and signed by the President of the United States, in which he orders and declares all slaves within ten States of the Confederacy to be free, except such as are found within certain districts now occupied in part by the armed forces of the enemy, and encourages the slaves to a general assassination of their masters; and

Whereas in the said message the President informs Congress that, so far as regards the action of this Government on such criminals as may attempt the execution of said proclamation, he will, unless Congress shall deem some other course more expedient, deliver to the several State authorities all commissioned officers of the United States that may hereafter be captured by our forces in any of the States embraced in the said proclamation, that they may be dealt with in accordance with the laws of those States providing for the punishment of criminals engaged in exciting servile insurrection:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, First. That, in the judgment of Congress, the course of proceeding which the President proposes to pursue, as above recited, would probably be ineffectual to restrain the attempts of the enemy to give effect to the said proclamation.

Second. That, in the judgment of Congress, it is advisable that the Confederate Government dispose of all captives taken by its forces and of all questions relating to the same.

^aThe report is not recorded in the Journal.

Third. That it is proper and necessary, in order to restrain the lawless and inhuman conduct of the enemy, that effectual retaliation be inflicted upon the enemy for said proclamation and the proclamation of the President of the United States dated September twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and the other acts of the enemy designed to disturb the institution of slavery and excite servile insurrection in the Confederate States,

The same was agreed to.

The resolutions as amended were read a third time, and the question being upon the passage of the same as amended,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 58
 } Nays ----- 16

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Chambers, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Munnerlyn, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, and Villeré.

So the resolutions as amended were passed.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The thirty minutes having expired,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the report of Mr. Lyon, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rules, in order to enable him to make a motion to have printed the report of the committee.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved that the House go into open session.

The motion did not prevail.

On motion of Mr. Perkins, the rules were suspended, the further consideration of the report of the committee on the tax bill was postponed until Monday next, and the same ordered to be printed.

The hour of half past 3 p. m. having arrived,

The House, according to order, took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having again met, proceeded to the consideration of the motion of Mr. Conrad to reconsider the vote on the passage of joint resolutions relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message.

Mr. Heiskell called the question: which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Curry,

Resolved itself into open session.

SEVENTY-NINTH DAY—SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Seeley.

Mr. Graham moved that the rules be suspended to allow him to record his vote on agreeing to the report of the committee of conference on the bill defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States; which was agreed to, and Mr. Graham voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Lyon moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to record his vote upon the same question; which was agreed to, and Mr. Lyon voted in the affirmative.

On motion of Mr. Goode, the rules were further suspended to enable any members desiring to record their votes upon the same question, and the following members voted in the affirmative, to wit: Messrs. Chambers, Johnston, and Wright of Tennessee.

The following voted in the negative, to wit: Messrs. Ashe, Collier, Garnett, Goode, Holcombe, McLean, and Trippe.

Mr. Vest offered the following resolutions, to wit:

Resolved, That we have heard with deep regret of the death, in the city of Petersburg, Virginia, on the fourteenth instant, of the Honorable William M. Cooke, a member of this House from the State of Missouri, and that we tender to his family our earnest sympathy in their afflictive bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased, and that a communication be sent to the Senate, informing that body of the action of this House.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, this House do now adjourn;

which were read and agreed to unanimously.

And the House adjourned until 11 o'clock on Monday.

EIGHTIETH DAY—MONDAY, APRIL 20, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr. Lyon.

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 16, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

Having approved and signed a bill which originated in your body, entitled "An act to allow minors to hold commissions in the Army," I deem it due to many meritorious officers in the service to make a short explanation.

The bill, in my opinion, is only declaratory of the preexisting law; no prohibition existed prior to its passage against the issue of commissions either in the Permanent or Provisional Army, to persons under 21 years of age.

Many of the commissioned officers of the Provisional Army have attained high rank by election and promotion before attaining the age of 21 years.

The only objection, therefore, that I could entertain to signing the bill in question was based on the apprehension that the approval of an act allowing commissions to be issued to minors, "from and after the passage of the act," might imply that the commissions heretofore issued to minors are invalid.

It seemed, however, more proper to sign the act, which in itself was unobjectionable, and to address to you this explanation, which will obviate, it is believed, the only ill consequence that could flow from the passage of the law.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 20, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, in response to your resolution of January 24, in reference to the exchange or release of persons who, taken from civil life, have been transported and confined beyond the limits of the Confederacy.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Perkins offered a resolution that 1,000 extra copies of the same be printed for the use of the members; which was referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair also presented the following communication from the President:

RICHMOND, VA., April 18, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of the amount required for the use of the Surgeon-General before the close of the current fiscal year.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 18, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of the amount required to liquidate claims to be paid for river defense service.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., April 20, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of the official reports of several engagements with the enemy.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 20, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, in response to your resolutions of the 1st and 4th instant, calling for copies of the official reports of certain battles.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also presented a communication from the President; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 18, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, in response to your resolution of the 4th instant, relative to the case of Surg. J. E. Dixon, a prisoner at Johnson's Island.

JEFFERSON DAVIS

which was read, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

A message was received from the President, notifying the House that on the 13th instant he approved and signed a bill entitled "An act to prohibit the punishment of soldiers by whipping," and, on the 16th instant, he approved and signed bills of the following titles, viz:

An act to allow minors to hold commissions in the Army;

An act explanatory of an act entitled "An act to authorize the President to accept and place in the service certain regiments and battalions heretofore raised," approved on the 11th day of October, 1862; and

An act for the relief of certain officers and soldiers from the State of Missouri.

On the 17th instant, he signed and approved a bill entitled "An act to provide for the execution of deeds by marshals in certain cases."

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 42. An act to liquidate a claim due to the State of Alabama for the steamer Florida.

They have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 3. An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service," etc., approved October 11, 1862;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

They have disagreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (S. 27) entitled "An act defining who shall be exempt from military service in the armies of the Confederate States."

They have also passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 56. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Currin,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill of the House entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States."

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States.

On motion of Mr. Lyon, the rule was suspended requiring the report to be considered in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas, the rule was suspended so as to enable Mr. Lyon to continue his remarks without limit.

Mr. Gray moved for a call of the House; which was ordered.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the vote by which a call of the House was ordered was reconsidered.

Mr. Davis demanded the question; which was ordered.

And the question being upon agreeing to the report of the committee of conference,

Mr. Davis demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 47
 } Nays ----- 37

Yeas: Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Royston, Singleton, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the report of the committee of conference was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Hilton moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from all the proceedings upon the consideration and passage of a bill to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the motion by adding thereto "and also on a bill to authorize a foreign loan."

The amendment was lost.

And the question being upon agreeing to the motion of Mr. Hilton,

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 68
 } Nays ----- 13 [14]

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Conrad, Garnett, Graham, Heiskell, Johnston, Kenner, Lyon, McDowell, Miller, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Machen moved that the House do resolve itself into open session. The motion was lost.

Mr. Davidson moved to suspend the rules to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Davidson, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, reported and recommended the passage of a bill to be entitled "An act to aid the several Departments in the investigation of accounts;" which was read first and second times.

And the House having refused to postpone the same and place it on the Calendar,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Attorney-General of the Confederate States shall appoint three commissioners, as early as practicable after the adjournment of the present session of Congress, who shall hold their offices until Congress shall otherwise order, whose duty it shall be, under the direction of the heads of the several Departments, and of the Attorney-General, to investigate the accounts of such officers of the Government as may be turned over or submitted to them by said heads of Departments, and especially to examine and ascertain the correctness of accounts of disbursing officers of posts and stations, who shall have disbursed of the public money more than twenty thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. Said commissioners shall have power, respectively, to appoint a chief clerk, and as many as two assistant clerks, if necessary; also a marshal for each commissioner, to execute his process; and they shall have power to send for persons and papers and to administer oaths to witnesses to testify before them, respectively; and the provisions of an act entitled "An act to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees," passed at the present session of Congress, shall apply to said commissioners, and the witnesses examined before them, respectively, shall be entitled to the compensation and subject to the same penalties as are prescribed by said act; and the compensation of the marshals shall be the same as therein set forth.

SEC. 3. Said commissioners, for the time they shall serve, shall be entitled to a compensation at a yearly rate of four thousand dollars each; their chief clerks each at the rate of twenty-five hundred dollars, and their assistant clerks at eighteen hundred dollars each.

SEC. 4. Said commissioners, respectively, shall make to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at the commencement of the next meeting of Congress, their reports as to what has been his action in each case investigated by him, reporting in each case, respectively, the testimony taken by him or under his authority.

SEC. 5. The said commissioners, respectively, under the sanction of the Attorney-General, shall have power to make such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the laws of the land, as shall be deemed necessary for the successful prosecution of their labor.

SEC. 6. Two of said commissioners shall be assigned by the Attorney-General to distinct departments east of the Mississippi River, and one of them to the military department of the Mississippi River, and may hold their investigations at such times and places as they may appoint.

SEC. 7. Said commissioners, chief clerks, and marshals, respectively, shall keep an account of their actual traveling expenses, which shall be refunded to them by the Government,

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved to amend by striking out, in section 1, the word "Attorney-General" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "President."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the same section by inserting after the word "until" the words "the end of the present Congress, or."

The hour of 3.30 o'clock having arrived,

The House, under order, took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having reassembled, proceeded to the consideration of the amendment offered by Mr. Smith of North Carolina;

When,

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the same by striking out the whole thereof and inserting in lieu the words "sixty days after the meeting of the next Congress, or."

The amendment was agreed to, and the amendment as amended was adopted.

Mr. Jones moved to amend by striking out the words "Attorney-General of the Confederate States" and inserting the words "President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting as follows, to wit:

That the military courts in the field shall have power to investigate the accounts and proceedings of all disbursing officers of the Government connected with army subsistence, transportation, or pay, and especially the accounts and proceedings of disbursing officers of posts and stations, and it shall be the duty of said courts to make investigation of all such accounts or proceedings when turned over or submitted to them by the heads of Departments in such investigations.

SEC. 2. Said courts shall have power to send for persons and papers, to administer oaths to witnesses to testify before them, and the provisions of an act entitled "An act to aid committees of Congress in the investigation of matters referred to them, and to punish false swearing before said committees," passed at the present session of Congress, shall, for the purposes of this act, apply to said courts, and the witnesses examined before them shall be entitled to the same compensation and be subject to the same penalties as are prescribed by the above-recited act.

SEC. 3. That the results of investigations made under this act shall be submitted to Congress at its next ensuing session.

Mr. Atkins moved to recommit the bill and amendments to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and called the previous question.

The Chair presented a message from the President: which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., April 18, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information in secret session a communication from the Secretary of State, in further response to your resolution of February 28, asking for copies of such portions of the correspondence between the State Department and our commissioners abroad as can be communicated without detriment to the public service.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion, the message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Curry,

Went into open session.

EIGHTY-FIRST DAY—TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Duncan.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business; which was

A bill regulating furloughs and discharges in hospitals.

Mr. Menees moved to amend the same by adding as an additional section the following, to wit:

SEC. 5. The house surgeon in all hospitals shall see each patient under his charge once every day.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Clark,

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 22
Nays----- 57

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Chilton, Clark, Collier, Gray, Herbert, Holt, Martin, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. Menees,

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas----- 51
Nays----- 22

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Boyce, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holt, Johnston, Lyon, Marshall, Miller, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Menees, the title of the same was amended by adding thereto the following words, to wit: "and prescribing the duties of surgeons."

Mr. Wright of Georgia, from the Committee on the Medical Department, to which was referred

A bill to provide for the visitation and general improvement of hospitals,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Wright, from the same committee, reported

A bill placing the clerks of the Medical Department of the city of Richmond upon the same footing with the clerks of the Executive Departments as to increase of compensation; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That the clerks of the Medical Department of the city of Richmond be entitled to the increased compensation of the clerks of the Executive Departments heretofore allowed by the several acts of Congress,

Mr. Garnett moved to amend the same by striking out thereof the words "of the Medical Department of the city of Richmond" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "in the civil employment of the Government in Richmond."

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by adding thereto the following proviso, to wit:

Provided, The clerks herein specified shall not receive any allowance whatever other than the salary herein specified, and all laws or regulations allowing them commutation or subsistence in kind are hereby repealed.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the main question was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Garnett was agreed to.

The amendment of Mr. Jones was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the title of the same was amended by striking out the words "Medical Department of" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "civil employment of the Government in."

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to which was referred

A bill to abolish supernumerary offices in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Foote, the main question was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chilton also, from the same committee, to which was referred a bill of the Senate entitled "An act relative to the bonds of quartermasters and commissaries of the Confederate States," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That hereafter the bonds of quartermasters and commissaries of the Confederate States shall be executed according to the following form, to wit:

"CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

"Know all men by these presents, That we, A. B., of the State of ——— and county of ———, as principal, and C. D. and E. F., of ———, as sureties, acknowledge ourselves to be bound to the Confederate States of America in the penal sum of ——— dollars, for the payment of which we jointly and severally bind ourselves, executors, and administrators by these presents, sealed with our seals, and dated this ——— day of ———, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty———. The object of this bond is to secure the Confederate States of America in the true and faithful discharge of the above bounden ——— ———, of the office of ——— ———, to which he has been legally appointed, and the duties of which he has undertaken to discharge; and we do hereby agree with the Confederate States aforesaid that he will faithfully account for all moneys or property that have come, or may come, to his possession or control under every order, commission, appointment, or reappointment as ——— aforesaid, in such manner or form as may be prescribed by law; and that the delivery of this bond by either of the signers shall render it obligatory upon all. These being done, this obligation to be void; otherwise to have full force and effect.

"——— ———, [SEAL.]
 "——— ———, [SEAL.]
 "——— ———, [SEAL.]"

SEC. 2. That the bonds of all quartermasters or commissaries for posts, brigades, or divisions shall be given for the penal sum of not less than fifty thousand dollars nor more than one hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Chilton, on the part of the committee, moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: Strike out all after the words "to wit," in the first section, and insert as said first section as follows, viz:

"CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

"Know all men by these presents, That we, ——— ———, of the State of ——— and county of ———, as principal, and ——— ———, of ——— ———, as sureties, are held and firmly bound unto the Confederate States of America, in the full and just sum of ——— dollars; to the payment thereof, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, jointly and severally, our joint and several heirs, executors, and administrators, firmly by these presents.

"Sealed with our seals, and dated at ——— ——— this ——— day of ———, one thousand eight hundred and sixty———.

"The condition of the foregoing obligation is such that, whereas, the said ——— ——— has been appointed to the office of ———: Now, therefore, if the said ——— ——— shall truly and faithfully execute and discharge all the duties of the said office, according to law, and fully pay and account for all moneys and public property and supplies which he may from time to time receive, and render full and true accounts of the disposition of all such moneys and public property and supplies, in such manner and at such times as he may be required by the Secretary of the War Department, or by such other officer as may by law be empowered to require the same, then the above obligation is to be void and of none effect; otherwise it shall remain in full force and virtue.

"Sealed and delivered in presence of—

"——— ———, [SEAL.]
 "——— ———, [SEAL.]
 "——— ———, [SEAL.]"

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the bill by inserting as an additional section, to come in after the first section, the following, to wit:

SEC. 2. With a view to the discovery of frauds and speculation upon the Government, and to facilitate the conviction of offenders under existing or future laws, *It is further enacted*, That every person now holding office under the Quartermaster's or Commissary Departments shall, forthwith, file, and every one hereafter appointed in either of said departments, shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, file, in the War Department, a schedule or inventory setting forth, under oath, duly administered, all the property of which he is seized and possessed, with a description thereof; and should any officer make a willful misstatement in the execution of such

schedule, he shall be guilty of false swearing, and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to the pains and penalties provided by law for such crimes. And in the trial of all suits and prosecutions against said officers, based upon alleged frauds or peculations upon the Government, ownership by the defendant of other property, not set forth in such schedule, and not the natural increase of property set forth therein, shall be prima facie evidence against him.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss,

The bill and amendments were laid upon the table.

Mr. Sexton, from the same committee, to which was referred the amendment of the Senate to a bill of the House entitled "An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property," reported the same back, with the recommendation that the House disagree to said amendment.

The amendment having been read as follows, to wit:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert

"That no officer, charged with the safe-keeping or disbursement of public moneys, shall convert to his own use, or invest in any kind of property or merchandise, on private account, or lend, with or without interest, any portion of the public moneys intrusted to him for safe-keeping, transfer, disbursement, or any other purpose.

"SEC. 2. That no officer, charged with the safe-keeping, transfer, or disbursement of public moneys, or charged with or assigned to the duty of purchasing for the Government, or any department thereof, shall buy, trade, traffic, or speculate in, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of gain to himself or others by resale or otherwise, any article of food or clothing, or material of which the same is made, or which enters into or constitutes a part of the same, or any material of war or article whatsoever, which is or may be required to be purchased for the use of the Army, or the prosecution of the war.

"SEC. 3. No officer shall give a receipt in blank for any article or articles purchased by him for the Government, or any department thereof, and every receipt shall set forth the true amount paid and on what account, and when payment is made on account of property purchased. The receipt shall set forth the name of the person from whom the property was purchased, and the place of his residence, the thing or things purchased by items, number, weight, or measurement, as may be customary in the particular case, the price thereof, and the date of payment.

"SEC. 4. No officer, who is in charge of transportation, or who is empowered to grant the same, shall forward, by Government conveyance, or at the expense of the Government, or to the exclusion or delay of Government freight, any commodity or property of any kind, unless the same belongs to the Government or some department thereof, except as authorized by law.

"SEC. 5. Any officer who shall violate any provision in the foregoing sections shall, upon conviction before a court-martial or military court, be cashiered and placed in the ranks as a private, to serve during the war: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall impair the civil remedy which the Government may have against any officer or his sureties for fraud, peculation, or misapplication of public moneys intrusted to him by the Government."

The same was disagreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled

An act to liquidate a claim due to the State of Alabama for the steamer Florida.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Sexton, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to which was referred

A bill to regulate the payment of mileage to officers in the service of the Confederate States,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to regulate payment of commutation for transportation, etc., for officers in the military service of the Confederate States; which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to amend an act in relation to prisoners of war, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the same upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Royston, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to provide for the appraisement and payment of horses killed in action,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the bill be laid upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Royston, from the same committee, to which was referred the memorial of B. P. Noland, praying compensation for a horse lost in the public service, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Royston, from the same committee, to which was referred the petition of Jonathan Harmison, of Hampshire County, Va., praying compensation for a horse, equipments, etc., unavoidably lost in the public service;

Also, memorial of R. W. Tally, praying compensation for a horse shot by order of Col. Williams C. Wickham;

Also, the memorial of W. G. M. Davis in relation to certain horses condemned,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Royston, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill providing for the punishment of pecuniary frauds by public officers, their aiders and abettors, and to punish the fraudulent reception or retention of public money by public officers beyond what they may be entitled to receive,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which was referred a resolution in relation to the contract existing between the Government and Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co., reported as follows, to wit:

The Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation, to whom was referred the resolution of the House directing them to inquire into and report as to the contract made by the Commissary-General with Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co., for supplies of flour, etc., have had the same under consideration and instruct me to report:

That they have made a very thorough examination as to the nature and terms of said contract, the parties concerned in it as beneficiaries, the manner in which it was concluded, its bona fides, the advantages which have accrued and are likely to result to the Government, on the one hand, and to Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co. on the other, as well as the reasonableness of said contract, the relative advantages it confers upon the Government over other competing proposals, and the manner in

which it has been executed by each of the contracting parties. In order to satisfy the minds of the committee more fully on these several points and of the necessity for making such a contract, they have extended the range of their investigations so as to embrace proof of the facilities afforded by the condition of the country, as well as by its industrial and agricultural resources for obtaining supplies of flour, the quantity of wheat raised in the various sections of Virginia from which wheat or flour could be obtained, the number and capacity of the mills in Richmond and in the neighborhood of the army, and the means and appliances used by the Commissary-General to obtain such supplies.

Your committee herewith submit the depositions of the various witnesses examined before them, and copies of the correspondence of the Bureau of Subsistence in relation to obtaining supplies of flour, as also the correspondence in relation to the making of the contract with Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co.

Having thus ascertained and reported the facts in full, elicited upon an examination occupying the assiduous attention of the committee for several weeks, they perhaps might well close their labors without expressing their opinion upon these facts. But as the public interest has suffered by reason of misapprehension in regard to this contract in the withholding of supplies of wheat in some instances, the owners supposing that it would go to swell the bloated fortune of grasping extortioners and speculators upon the country, the committee are willing to assume any measure of responsibility which may be supposed to have devolved upon them by the resolution of the House.

Without discussing the policy or attempting to demonstrate the necessity of accumulating large supplies of flour in Richmond, beyond the reach of the enemy, to be ground of wheat mostly obtained from sections which were threatened to be overrun by a foe, who, regardless of private rights, as recognized by the laws of civilized warfare, never fail to appropriate or destroy the property which falls under his control, the committee will proceed to state the following conclusions to which their minds have been forced by the proof, and to which, in view of the proof, they unhesitatingly give their unanimous consent:

1. That prudent, precautionary measures were adopted by the Commissary-General in the manner of letting out this contract.

2. That the firm with whom the contract was made furnished, in its appliances, capacity, integrity, and efficiency, unquestionable security that the contract on its part would be faithfully complied with, aside from the bond and security which it gave.

3. That said firm acted in good faith in the proposals made in accordance with the request of the Commissary-General. That the proposal which was accepted was the best which could be obtained for the Government.

4. That the contract made with Messrs. Haxall, Crenshaw & Co. was fairly entered into. That no Government agent, either directly or indirectly, has or ever had any interest whatever in the profits of the contractors.

5. That the contract was just and reasonable, and does not secure to the contractors more than a fair and equitable compensation for the labor and services required of them in its fulfillment.

6. That thus far it has been carried out by the contractors with scrupulous good faith, and, in the opinion of the committee, has enabled the Government to obtain supplies of flour at a cheaper rate than could otherwise have been obtained.

In conclusion, your committee would add that they have examined many persons, experts in the manufacture of flour, owners of mills, millers, inspectors of flour, etc., and with one accord they have pronounced the contract reasonable and just, and many of them say the contractors do not receive the usual compensation for grinding and hauling the wheat and flour to and from the respective depots in Richmond and furnishing to the Government the barrels or packages, and those of them who had denounced the contract under a mistaken view of its provisions, which had been from prudential considerations kept from the public, upon being made acquainted with the terms of the contract, unhesitatingly approved it as just and reasonable.

It is to be greatly regretted that much injury has accrued to the Government already from these misapprehensions, and if this investigation shall satisfy the public (as it must when the proof is read) that the contractors are making sacrifices for the public good, in the matter of said contract, and that it is the patriotic duty of all holding wheat which they owe to an imperiled country to let the Government have the same to be ground into flour to subsist our noble Army, the committee will be fully compensated for the arduous duties devolved upon them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. CHILTON, *Chairman.*

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the report, together with the contract, was ordered to be printed and laid upon the table.

Mr. Marshall, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution in relation to authorizing post quartermasters to pay to certain persons the amount due deceased soldiers, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Marshall, from the same committee, to which was referred

A bill to provide for the payment of slaves, horses, and other property lost, captured, or destroyed in the military service of the Confederate States, reported the same back and asked to be discharged from its further consideration; which was agreed to.

Mr. Marshall, from the same committee, to which had been referred a petition from certain post chaplains, asking additional allowance for their services in the Army, reported the same back, recommended that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Marshall, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution instructing said committee to confer with the Secretary of War relative to securing the first use of the railroads for private transportation so far as the same could be done consistently with the public interest,

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill to authorize the President to regulate railroad transportation, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution relative to the amount of losses in commissary and quartermaster's supplies at Nashville, Bowling Green, and Manassas, upon the evacuation of those places by our Army,

reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution instructing said committee to inquire what further legislation is necessary in order to secure the payment of claims existing against the Government for subsistence and supplies furnished for the use of the Army, etc.,

reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which was referred

A resolution instructing said committee to ascertain whether the officers and privates of the Army have been regularly and promptly paid,

reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution instructing said committee to ascertain the number of able-bodied young men who are now engaged as principals and agents in each of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which had been referred the petition of Jonathan Haman, reported back the same, asked that

the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution instructing said committee to inquire into the expediency of enacting a law requiring the Government to furnish transportation for the remains of officers and soldiers who have fallen in the service of their country,

reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution instructing said committee to inquire whether officers and employees connected with the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments are not in the habit of obtaining supplies for their families from those departments at Government prices,

reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, to which had been referred certain papers relative to the organization of the Army, reported back the same, asked to be discharged from their further consideration, and that the same be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 32. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to provide for an increase of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments,' approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" and

H. R. 9. A joint resolution for the relief of H. H. Epping.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Clark, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to which had been referred

A resolution relative to the obtaining supplies for clerks, etc., reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clark, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution in relation to the payment of claims for subsistence supplies furnished the Army,

reported back the same, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clark, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit the improper employment of soldiers and sailors,"

reported back the same, with an amendment in the form of a substitute.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it on the Calendar being decided in the negative, it was taken up for consideration.

The substitute proposed by the committee, in the form of an amendment, was then read as follows, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit the improper employment of soldiers."

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That any commissioned or noncommissioned officer in the service of the Confederate States who shall order or detail to perform any menial or personal service any noncommissioned officer or private shall, on conviction thereof, if a commissioned officer, be cashiered; and if a noncommissioned officer, be reduced to the ranks.

The question recurring on the amendment of the committee, it was agreed to.

The bill as amended was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Boteler, from the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, to which had been referred

A bill to provide for the appointment of military storekeepers in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the bill by adding thereto the following: or those who have held similar appointments in the Army of the United States and resigned on account of secession.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the amendment on the table; which was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Boteler, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill (S. 110) to be entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to lease a site near the city of Richmond for the preparation and safe-keeping of ordnance stores," reported the same back, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Boteler, from the same committee, reported

A bill providing for the appointment of superintendents of laboratories; which was read first and second times.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative, it was taken up for consideration.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Boteler, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to fix the pay and allowance of the master armorer of the Confederate States Armory at Richmond, Virginia."

The bill was read first and second times.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative, it was taken up for consideration.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the President to confer upon the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance the rank, pay, and allowances of brigadier-generals in the Army of the Confederate States."

The bill was read first and second times.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the affirmative,

Mr. Bridgers moved to reconsider the vote last taken.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was agreed to.

Mr. Ashe moved to amend the bill by adding after the word "Ordnance" the words "and Chief of Engineer Bureau."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to commit the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of conferring the rank of brigadier-general on each of the heads of the general staff and also on the Chief of Ordnance and Chief of Engineers.

Mr. Heiskell called the question: which was ordered.

Mr. Davis demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Jones' motion to refer the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs was lost.

Mr. Curry moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

Mr. H. W. Bruce demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows: { Yeas 44
Nays 23

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Moore, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Boteler, Boyce, Clark, Conrow, Davis, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Graham, Gray, Herbert, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Marshall, Martin, Sexton, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment of Mr. Ashe was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays on the passage of the bill;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 37
Nays 23

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lyon, McLean, McRae, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Bell, Clopton, Davis, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Martin, McDowell, Perkins, Royston, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the title of the bill by inserting after the word "Ordnance" the words "and Engineers;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Swan, from the special committee of five, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy," reported back the same, with a recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The bill was taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in States occupied by the forces of the enemy."

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That in the States of Kentucky, Missouri, and Tennessee elections for Representatives shall be by general ticket for such States, and each voter shall be entitled to vote one ticket containing the names of one person from each Congressional district in such State, and the persons in each district receiving the greatest number of votes of the whole vote of the State shall be commissioned as Representative by the governor of such State.

SEC. 2. Such elections shall be held in all States, wherein no provision exists by law fixing the time for holding the same, on the first Wednesday in November next, and in each second year thereafter during the war.

SEC. 3. Such elections shall be so held by the officers, authorities, or persons appointed or provided by the laws of the several States for the purpose of holding such elections and at the places so provided, or, if no provision has been made or shall be made therefor, then by the State authority, officers, or persons who at the time are authorized to hold elections for members of the most numerous branch of the State legislature.

SEC. 4. Such elections shall be conducted according to the mode prescribed by the laws of the several States, except so far as the same are modified by this act.

SEC. 5. In such elections every citizen of the Confederate States who has not forfeited his citizenship by electing to adhere to the Government of the United States, who shall be qualified to vote for a member of the most numerous branch of the State legislature of the State wherein he resides, shall be entitled to vote at the place or places in his State at which he would be entitled to vote in an election for such member of such legislature.

SEC. 6. But in case such citizen shall be in the military service of the Confederate States, or in case he shall be driven from his home by the occupation of his country by the public enemy, or by the movements of his troops, or in case the elections can not be held at the usual places of holding the same, by reason of such occupation or movements, then such citizen shall be allowed to vote at any place of voting in such State, or in the camps of the Army, as provided for by the laws of such State, or as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 7. In every such case, if the State governments have failed to provide for elections to be held in the camps of the Army, such elections for Representatives shall be held therein as follows: In every army corps, division, or command the colonel of each regiment, or other officer in command thereof, or the officer in command of any less body on detached service, shall appoint two judges and three clerks to open and hold such election, who shall hold the same, and make out the poll books and returns, under the same rules and regulations as if the same were opened and held at the usual place of holding the same in the State from which such regiment or command came, and shall allow all persons entitled to vote therein.

SEC. 8. The returns of such elections in camps shall be forwarded by the several commanding officers, appointing the judges and clerks as aforesaid, to the highest officer in grade, and the senior of the grade from the State for which the same is held in the encampment or army in which the same is held, whose duty it shall be at once to forward the same to the governor of the State; or the same may be, if more convenient, forwarded by such commanding officer directly to the governor.

SEC. 9. In case the exigencies of the public service prevent the holding of the elections in any camp, under this act or under any State law passed for that purpose, at the time provided by law, the same may be held at any time within ten days after the preventing cause may cease; the time for holding the same to be fixed by the officer authorized to appoint the judges and clerks.

SEC. 10. Such officer shall be authorized to administer the proper oaths to the judges and clerks, or they may administer the same to each other.

SEC. 11. Every person concerned in holding such election in any State or camp shall take an oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States and to discharge his duty in holding such election faithfully and impartially.

SEC. 12. In the event that any such State has, by law, provided for holding such election under the circumstances herein specified, either by temporary act, which has expired, or by acts now in force, such election shall be held according to the provisions of such temporary or permanent act.

The amendment of the committee was then read as follows, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in certain cases."

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That in the State of Tennessee elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States shall be by general ticket containing the name of one person from each Congressional district in the State, and the person in each district receiving the greatest number of votes of the whole vote of the State shall be certified as Representative by the governor thereof.

SEC. 2. Such election shall be held the first Thursday in February next, and in each second year thereafter during the war.

SEC. 3. Such elections shall be held by the officers, authorities, or persons appointed or provided by the laws of the State for the purpose of holding such elections and at the places so provided, or, if no provision has been made or shall be made therefor, then by the State authority, officers, or persons who at the time are authorized to hold elections for members of the most numerous branch of the State legislature.

SEC. 4. Such elections shall be conducted according to the mode prescribed by the laws of the State, except so far as the same are modified by this act.

SEC. 5. In such elections every citizen of the Confederate States who has not forfeited his citizenship by electing to adhere to the Government of the United States, who shall be qualified to vote for a member of the most numerous branch of the State legislature of the State wherein he resides, shall be entitled to vote at the place or places in his State at which he would be entitled to vote for such member of such legislature.

SEC. 6. But in case such citizen shall be in the military service of the Confederate States, or in case he shall be driven from his home by the occupation of his country by the public enemy, or by the movements of the enemy's troops, or in case elections can not be held at the usual place of holding the same, by reason of such occupation or movements, then such citizen shall be allowed to vote at any place of voting in such State, or in the camps of the Army, as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 7. Such elections for Representatives shall be held in the camps of the Army as follows: In every army corps, division, or command the colonel of each regiment, or other officer in command thereof, or the officer in command of any less body on detached service, shall appoint two judges and three clerks to open and hold such elections, who shall hold the same, and make out the poll books and returns, under the same rules and regulations as if the same were opened and held at the usual place of holding the same in the State from which such regiment or command came, and shall allow all persons entitled to vote therein.

SEC. 8. The returns of such elections in camps shall be forwarded by the several commanding officers, appointing the judges and clerks as aforesaid, to the highest officer in grade, and the senior of the grade from the State for which the same is held in the encampment or army in which the same is held, whose duty it shall be at once to forward the same to the governor of the State; or the same may be, if more convenient, forwarded by such commanding officer directly to the governor.

SEC. 9. In case the exigencies of the public service prevent the holding of the elections in any camp, under this act, at the time provided, the same may be held at any time within ten days after the preventing cause may cease; the time for holding the same to be fixed by the officer authorized to appoint the judges and clerks.

SEC. 10. Such officer shall be authorized to administer the proper oaths to the judges and clerks, or they may administer the same to each other.

SEC. 11. Every person concerned in holding such election in any State or camp shall take an oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States and to discharge his duty in holding such election faithfully and impartially.

Mr. Jones moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and a joint resolution of this House of the following titles:

H. R. 32. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for an increase of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments," approved February 15, 1862; and

H. R. 9. Joint resolution for the relief of H. H. Epping.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 14th instant, approve and sign an act entitled

8. 97. An act to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service.

On the 16th instant, the President approved and signed the following acts and joint resolution:

S. 43. An act for the relief of the Brunswick and Albany Railroad Company;

S. 103. An act to authorize the increase of the compensation of route agents, and to increase the per diem allowance to special agents of the Post-Office Department;

S. 78. An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave;

§. 41. An act to amend the several acts prescribing the mode of publishing the laws and resolutions of the Confederate States;

S. 100. An act to amend an act to establish the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

S. 17. An act relating to appeals from the Commissioner of Patents;

S. 24. An act to authorize the Commissioner of Patents to purchase books for the library of the Patent Office; and

S. 1. Joint resolution for the relief of Capt. John F. Divine.

Mr. Marshall moved to amend the amendment of the committee as follows, the amendment to constitute the first section of the bill:

That in the States of Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee the Representatives to Congress shall be chosen, until the legislatures thereof shall otherwise provide, by the qualified voters of said States, respectively; and in any other State in which a Congressional district or a majority of the counties or parishes thereof are in the possession or under the control of the enemy's forces, so that an election can not conveniently be held therein, and in which no other mode of election has been or shall be prescribed by the respective legislatures thereof, the representatives of such districts shall be chosen by the qualified voters of the State.

The question on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Marshall was decided in the negative.

Mr. Swan moved the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of the committee,

Mr. Dupré demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Years ----- 33
 } Days ----- 32

Days 32

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Garland, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Johnston, Lewis, Machen, Martin, Meneses, Miller, Moore, Ralls, Read, Swan, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

Navy: Ashe, Chambers, Clark, Collier, Curry, Dupré, Foster, Gaither, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, McLean, McLae, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on ordering the bill as amended to be engrossed for a third reading,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 25 [24]
Nays ----- 40

Navs	40
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Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Conrow, Cur-
rin, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Goode, Heiskell, Hodge, Johnston, Lewis,
Machen, Martin, Mences, Miller, Moore, Ralls, Read, Swan, Vest, and
Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Boyce, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dupré, Foster, Gaither, Garland.

Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, McLean, McRae, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the bill was not ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Chambers moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to order the bill to be engrossed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Gray, from a special committee of five, to which had been referred a bill of the Senate (S. 34) to be entitled "An act to alter and amend an act for the sequestration of estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," approved February 15, 1862, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a resolution fixing a day for the adjournment of Congress; in which they request the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Holt,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

EIGHTY-SECOND DAY—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Duncan.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the consideration of the amendment proposed by the special committee of five to a bill of the Senate (S. 34) to amend an act entitled "An act to alter and amend an act for the sequestration of estates, property, and effects of alien enemies, and for indemnity of citizens of the Confederate States and persons aiding the same in the existing war with the United States," approved February 15, 1862.

On motion of Mr. Gray, the original amendment of the Committee on the Judiciary to the Senate bill was laid on the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by the Secretary of that body, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 26. An act for the assessment and collection of taxes;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

They have passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of this House entitled H. R. 12. Joint resolution authorizing the payment of rent for the building occupied by the Quartermaster's Department.

They have concurred in the amendment of this House to the bill of the Senate (S. 14) to authorize newspapers to be mailed to soldiers free of postage.

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of the committee; which is as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact.* That all enactments authorizing, directing, or permitting the sale of sequestered real property or

slaves are hereby repealed, but the courts provided for by the original act and its amendments may make such orders and decrees for the custody and management of real property and slaves as shall preserve the same from waste and damage.

Sec. 2. Whenever a sale of lands or other property has been or shall be made and confirmed, and terms of sale fully complied with by the purchaser, such sale shall pass the title to such property, not only of the person as whose property it has been sequestered, but of all others, alien enemies of the Confederate States, as whose property it would have been liable to sequestration or confiscation, whether named or not in the proceedings therefor.

Sec. 3. The proceedings for the sequestration or confiscation of any property, money, rights, or credits of any alien enemies of the Confederate States shall bind and operate against the claim and title, not only of the person named in the proceedings therefor, but also of any and all other alien enemies who would have been liable to such proceedings. And no cause of action, in any manner, or for any purpose whatever, shall ever exist, and no suit allowed, on behalf of any person who was an alien enemy of the Confederate States, in regard to any property sequestered and sold, money collected, or any other proceedings under the sequestration or confiscation laws, nor of any person claiming rights under or from such alien enemy, by title, or interest, or agreement, subsequent to the thirtieth of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

Sec. 4. All claims or suits of any citizen or alien friend, for any right, or credit, or other property sequestered in proceedings against an alien enemy, shall be asserted by institution of suit therefor within one year after the ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States, and all such claims not so asserted shall be barred.

Sec. 5. Where negotiable notes or bills have been delivered, or other debts contracted to or with an alien enemy, and have been or may be sequestered, and they can not be produced in suits against debtors, or where the ownership of them is unknown, and no notice of a transfer to a citizen or alien friend or neutral has been given, the presumption shall be that such notes, bills, or debts were the property of an alien enemy and liable to sequestration. And where an assignment of any such claim is alleged to a citizen or neutral, the burden of proving that such transfer or assignment was made in good faith, and for value, before it became liable to sequestration, shall rest on the party asserting the same.

Sec. 6. All judgments and decrees which have been or may be rendered, for debts to alien enemies, under the acts to which this is supplemental, shall be subject to and regulated by the laws of the State in which they are rendered, concerning the liens of judgments and the manner of proceeding on executions in such State. And the district courts respectively shall mold their processes so as to give effect to such laws.

Sec. 7. Any citizen who shall, in good faith, and without notice of a transfer of any note, bill, or other credit sequestered as the property of an alien enemy, pay the debt evidenced thereby to the receiver or marshal of the Confederate States authorized to collect the same, and who shall hereafter be made liable or compelled to pay the same by judgment or decree of a court of the Confederate States to a party who was not an alien enemy, shall be reimbursed by the Government of the Confederate States in the amount so paid to such receiver or marshal, together with interest thereon at the same rate which the debt paid was drawing and cost of suit incurred: *Provided*, That the debtor shall have notified the attorney of the Confederate States of the pendency of such suit, that he may defend the same, or in case such notice be not given, that the judge presiding at the trial shall certify that the suit was defended in good faith by the debtor.

Sec. 8. In all cases when execution shall be issued, for interest on judgment or decrees, the defendants shall be liable for the costs accruing on such executions: *Provided*, That executions shall not issue within thirty [days] after the interest becomes due.

Sec. 9. The clerk shall have power, without order of the judge, in vacation, to issue execution on any judgment or decree, when the receiver shall make oath, in writing, that he has reasonable grounds to believe that the debtor is fraudulently conveying or disposing of his effects with intent to evade the judgment or decree, or is about to remove his effects beyond the jurisdiction of the court, which execution shall be discharged on the defendant giving bond and security, in double the amount of the debt, to be approved by the clerk, and paying costs of the proceedings.

Sec. 10. All sales of real estate made by the provisions of the acts to which this is supplemental, under order, judgment, or decree of the court, may be reported to the judge and confirmed in vacation, under the same regulations as are required in cases of confirmation during the term of the court,

S. 75. An act to provide for having the laws relating to military and naval affairs digested and published.

They have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate; and

S. 128. An act to authorize the appointment of a chief constructor in the Navy, and to fix the pay;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Conrad, from the special committee appointed to inquire and report upon the propriety of furnishing homesteads to officers and soldiers, and to which had been referred joint resolution to provide a homestead for the officers and privates of the Army of the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The consideration of the joint resolution and amendment was postponed and the same placed on the Calendar.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The further consideration of the bill and amendment was postponed and the same was placed on the Calendar.

Mr. Foote, from the special committee appointed to examine into frauds in transportation on railroads, reported and recommended the adoption of the following resolution, to wit:

Resolved, That [there] be appointed a committee of this House, whose duty it shall be during the recess of Congress to travel along the various lines of railroads in the Confederate States for the purpose of investigating all alleged frauds and abuses in the transportation service, whose necessary expenses shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House. That he shall have power to employ a competent clerk and to send for persons and papers; and that he report his proceedings herein to this House at its next session.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the further consideration of the resolution was postponed until after the consideration, in secret session, of

A bill to appoint commissioners to investigate the accounts of Government officials, etc.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, notifying the House that on the 18th instant the President approved and signed

H. R. 29. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to secure copyrights to authors and composers," approved May 21, 1861.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, leave of absence was granted Mr. Davidson.

The Chair presented the following bills:

S. 128. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of a chief constructor in the Navy, and to fix the pay;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

S. 13. A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the public printing;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Printing.

S. 126. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

S. 129. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments by [officers] of the Army;'" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

S. 56. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts,' approved October ninth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 88. A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the custody of persons charged with offenses against the Confederate States;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 116. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

S. 131. A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the pay of third assistant engineers in the Navy;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs; also

S. 75. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for having the laws relating to military and naval affairs digested and published;" which had been returned from the Senate with a refusal to concur in the amendments proposed thereto by the House.

The bill and amendments were referred to the Committee on Printing. Also,

H. R. 39. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in certain Indian nations;" returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H. R. 3. A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled 'An act to exempt certain persons from military service,' etc., approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

H. R. 10. Joint resolution to provide for the payment of certain accounts of the acting quartermaster and other officers of the Indian troops;

returned from the Senate with amendments; which were referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred a bill of the Senate (S. 44) entitled "An act to amend the law in relation to assistant treasurers and depositaries," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with sundry amendments.

And the question upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and amendments and placing the same on the Calendar being negatived,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the first day of January in the present year, the salaries of the officers hereinafter named

shall be as follows: The assistant treasurer at Charleston, four thousand dollars; the depositary at Mobile, four thousand dollars; the depositaries at Augusta and Savannah, three thousand dollars each.

SEC. 2. The several assistant treasurers and depositaries may require each clerk employed in his office to give bond in such amount as shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, with sufficient sureties, to be approved by the judge of the district in which each office, respectively, is situated, and from and after the due execution of such bonds in each office, the respective officers and clerks shall be liable only for their own defaults, omissions, and neglect of duty.

SEC. 3. Each paying and receiving teller employed in the office of the said assistant treasurers and depositaries shall receive a salary of two thousand dollars, and each of the other clerks a salary not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars.

SEC. 4. The salaries of each of the said officers shall be in lieu of all fees or other compensation.

SEC. 5. The Court of Claims is authorized, upon proof duly made of due diligence on the part of the officer, and of the entire absence of carelessness or neglect of duty, to relieve him from liability for any counterfeit notes which may be passed upon him, any of the treasurers, assistant treasurers, depositaries, or any of their clerks.

SEC. 6. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized, upon proof duly made of diligence on the part of the officer, and of the entire absence of carelessness and neglect of duty, to relieve him from liability for any counterfeit notes heretofore passed on any of the treasurers, assistant treasurers, or depositaries,

And the question being upon agreeing to the first amendment of the committee, which was to strike out, in section 1. the words "first day of January in the present year" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "from and after the passage of this act,"

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to add at the end of section 4 the following proviso, to wit:

Provided, That the increase of said salaries shall cease from and after six months after a ratification of a treaty of peace,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out section 5,

The same was agreed to.

And the question being upon agreeing to the next amendment of the committee, which was to strike out section 6,

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Hartridge moved to amend the bill by striking out the word "three," in the first section, and to insert in lieu thereof the word "four."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to amend by adding at the end of the same section the words "and the depositary at Galveston, two thousand dollars."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend by adding as an additional section the following, to wit:

From and after the passage of this act, the monthly pay of the soldiers in the Army of the Confederate States shall be increased by the sum of six dollars per month.

The Chair decided the amendment out of order.

From which decision Mr. Garnett appealed.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

Mr. Garnett demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were ordered.

The hour of half past 3 having arrived,

The House took a recess until 8 o'clock p. m.;

And having again assembled,

Mr. Garnett withdrew the appeal,

Which was renewed by Mr. Arrington.

And the question being,

Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Garnett moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until the Senate should pass a bill increasing the pay of the soldiers in the Army of the Confederate States.

Mr. Welsh demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered.

And the question being upon agreeing to the motion of Mr. Garnett,

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 38
 } Nays ----- 27

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clopton, Crockett, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Hartridge, Johnston, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Miles, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Simpson, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Chambers called for the question.

The question was ordered, and

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 35
 } Nays ----- 35

Yeas: Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Farrow, Freeman, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Miles, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Royston, Simpson, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 18. A bill to be entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred

S. 76. A bill to regulate the extra pay allowed soldiers detailed for duty as clerks in the city of Richmond, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

And the question upon postponing the further consideration of the same and placing it on the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the extra pay now allowed soldiers detailed to perform the duties of clerks in any of the public offices in the city of Richmond, by reason of their physical disability to serve in the field, shall be increased from twenty-five cents per day to one dollar per day, from the first day of January last,

And the question being upon agreeing to the amendment of the committee, which was to strike out the words "from the first day of January last" and to insert in lieu thereof the words "from and after the passage of this act,"

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan moved to amend by inserting after the word "soldiers" the words "who reside east of the Chattahoochee River."

Mr. Pugh moved to postpone indefinitely the further consideration of the bill and amendments.

Upon which he demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 12
Nays ----- 56

Yeas: Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Currin, Elliott, Foote, Garland, Kenan of North Carolina, Pugh, Swan, Vest, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the previous question.

The main question was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Dargan was lost, and the bill was read a third time.

Mr. Hanly moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

The motion was lost, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Collier moved to reconsider the vote on the passage of the bill.

Mr. Hanly demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 24
Nays ----- 44

Yeas: Atkins, Batson, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Foote, Foster, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hodge, Holt, Kenan of North Carolina, McQueen, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Vest, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McLean, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Royston, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion did not prevail.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to continue and amend the third section of an act concerning the pay and allowances due to deceased soldiers, approved February 15, 1862, and to provide for the prompt settlement of claims for arrearages of pay, allowances, and bounty due deceased officers and soldiers; which was read first and second times.

And the question being upon postponing the further consideration of the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred a bill of the Senate (No. 90) relative to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of an act approved May 16, 1861, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

And the question being upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and amendment and placing the same on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the ten-year bonds and two-year Treasury notes issued under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to authorize a loan and the issue of Treasury notes, and to prescribe the punishment for forging the same and for forging certificates of stock and bonds," approved sixteenth May, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, be, and the same are hereby, exempted from the operations of the act entitled "An act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved twenty-third March, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and the said ten-year bonds and two-year Treasury notes shall continue subject to all the provisions of the said act first hereinbefore mentioned, approved sixteenth May, eighteen hundred and sixty-one,

The committee moved to amend by adding at the end of the bill the following, to wit:

Provided, That the said two-year Treasury notes now outstanding shall be funded prior to the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Kenner, from the same committee, to which had been referred S. 94. A bill to be entitled "An act to establish the form of fifty-cent Treasury notes," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

And the question being,

Shall the bill be postponed and placed on the Calendar?

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Kenner, from the same committee, reported and recommended the passage of

A bill to admit free of duty all machinery for the manufacture of cotton or wool, or necessary for carrying on any of the mechanic arts; which was read the first and second times.

And the question being,

Shall the bill be postponed and placed on the Calendar?

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Baldwin, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill of the House for the assessment and collection of taxes, which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the House do concur in the amendments of the Senate.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Harris,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

EIGHTY-THIRD DAY—THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Seeley.

The Chair laid before the House

S. 132. A bill to establish the flag of the Confederate States; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the last session; which was the consideration of the amendments of the Senate to a bill of the House for the assessment and collection of taxes.

And on motion, the following amendments proposed by the Senate were concurred in, respectively, to wit:

Strike out, in section 1, line 3, the words "stamp duties, licenses."

Strike out, in section 1, line 12, the words "stamps and licenses" and insert "and" between "forms" and "blanks."

Strike out, in section 1, line 15, the word "licenses."

Insert, in section 2, lines 8 and 9, between the words "and" and "shall," the words "and State collector."

Strike out, in section 6, lines 3 and 6, from the word "when," to the word "thereafter," both inclusive, and insert the words "at the time prescribed by law, or if no time be fixed by law, then at such times as may be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury."

Insert, in section 6, line 8, after the word "income," the words "or profits."

Strike out, in section 7, all after the word "shall," in line 5, down to and including the word "act," in line 9.

Insert, in section 7, line 18, after the word "required," the words "to be made."

Strike out, in section 7, line 21, the words "this act" and insert the word "law."

Strike out, in section 9, line 2, the words "collector or."

Strike out, in section 9, all after the word "respectively," in line 18.

Strike out, in section 10, line 3, the words "collector or."

Strike out, in section 10, line 13, the words "collector or" and insert the words "or other unavoidable cause the."

Strike out, in section 10, line 14, the word "fifty" and insert the word "twenty-five."

Strike out, in section 10, line 18, the words "collector or."

Strike out, in section 13, all after the word "aforesaid," in line 1, to and including the word "lists," in line 4.

Insert, in section 13, line 4, after the word "taken," the words "at such times as may be prescribed by the commissioner of taxes, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury."

Strike out, in section 13, the word "day" and insert the word "time."

Strike out, in section 13, all after the word "aforesaid," in line 23, down to and including the word "due," in line 26.

Strike out, in section 13, all after the word "prescribed," in line 27, down to and including the word "instructions," in line 28, and insert the words "as aforesaid."

Insert, in section 14, line 36, after the words "to be," the words "personally served or."

Add, in section 14, after the word "collector," the following words: "*Provided*, That this section shall not apply to estimates of incomes and profits or of taxes in kind made by appraisers or referees, as prescribed in the act passed in April, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-three, entitled 'An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States.'"

Insert, in section 16, line 11, after the word "so," the word "assessed."

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the Senate, which was to strike out all of section 24 and insert

That all property, credits, income, and profits, and every object and article subjected to taxation, shall be estimated, valued, and assessed at the value thereof at the time of assessment in Confederate Treasury notes,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas-----40
Nays-----37

Yeas: Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, De Jarnette, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Harris moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Curry moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Upon which Mr. Holcombe demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 41
Nays ----- 41

Yeas: Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Bridgers, Clapp, Clark, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kerner, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, De Jarnette, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion did not prevail.

And the question being upon the motion of Mr. Swan to reconsider, Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas ----- 39
 } Nays ----- 39 [40]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, De Jarnette, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Harris, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Batson, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

And the next amendments of the Senate were concurred in; which are as follows, to wit:

Strike out, in section 28, all after the word "*Provided*," in line 10, down to and including the word "who," in line 15, and insert as follows: "That any person who is a nonresident of the State in which he may have taxes to pay may pay the whole amount of such taxes directly to the State collector of the State in which said taxes are due, and any person having taxes to pay in two or more collection districts of the same State may, if he resides in such State, pay the whole amount of his taxes in that State to the district collector of the district wherein the taxpayer resides, and the said State or district collector, as the case may be."

Strike out, in section 35, line 15, all after the word "by," down to and including the word "section," in line 16, and insert the words "the time required by the provisions."

And the question being on agreeing to the next amendment of the Senate, which was to strike out, in section 36, line 7, the word "three" and insert the word "ten,"

Mr. Machen moved to amend by striking out "ten" and inserting the word "five."

The amendment was agreed to, and the amendment as amended was agreed to.

And the following amendments of the Senate were concurred in, to wit:

Strike out, in section 39, line 3, the word "forty-five" and insert the word "forty."

Add the following sections, as follows:

"SEC. 40. That all the officers mentioned in this act, whose appointments are required to be made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may be appointed by the President during the recess of the Senate, and said appointments shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation, at its next session, and in case the same be not confirmed by the Senate at said session, such appointments shall expire at the end of the session.

"SEC. 41. That the provisions of this act shall not be construed to alter, impair, or repeal any portion of the act passed at the present session, entitled 'An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States,' regulating the manner of ascertaining, assessing, and collecting the tax in kind: *Provided*, That all valuations required in ascertaining and assessing the said income tax and tax in kind shall be made in Confederate Treasury notes."

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, from the Committee on Ways and Means, section 40 was changed to section 42 and section 41 to section 43.

Mr. Holcombe moved to amend by adding at end of the Senate amendments the following, to wit:

In no valuation of credits under the provisions of this act shall any credit upon which the holder will indorse, in writing, his willingness to receive Confederate notes in payment be valued at a higher rate.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Graham, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill to declare the meaning and extend the provisions of an act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments, approved October 13, 1862;

which was read first and second [times].

And the question being,

Shall the bill be postponed and placed on the Calendar?

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was taken up and read as follows, to wit:^a

Mr. Jones moved to amend by striking out, in section 2, the words "and it is hereby declared that it shall hereafter be construed."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend by striking out, in section 2, the words "legislative and executive departments" and insert in lieu thereof "civil employees."

The amendment was lost, and the bill was engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. McRae moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. McRae moved to amend by inserting after the word "office," in section 3, the words "and the disbursing officer of the contingent fund of the Executive Office."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the first section of the bill by striking out the words "one year" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "three months."

Mr. Machen moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Hilton by striking out "three months" and inserting "until first day of January next."

The amendment to the amendment was lost, and the amendment of Mr. Hilton was agreed to.

The bill was engrossed and read a third time, and the question being on the passage of the same,

Mr. Smith of North Carolina demanded the yeas and nays thereon; Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas 42
Nays 17

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Conrow, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Garland, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Curry, Farrow, Gaither, Garnett, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Perkins, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, and Welsh.

^a The bill is not recorded in the Journal.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the title of the bill by adding the words "and providing a compensation for the disbursing officer of the contingent fund of the Executive Office."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. E. M. Bruce moved to reconsider the vote on the passage of the bill.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Boyce, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported back, with the recommendation that it pass, Senate bill (S. 111) to authorize the issue of eight per cent bonds or certificates of stock in certain cases.

And the question upon postponing and placing the same on the Calendar being negatived,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized to issue and deliver bonds and certificates of stock of the Confederate States, bearing eight per cent interest per annum, to such an amount as may be necessary, to discharge all agreements entered into prior to the first day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, whereby goods were sold and delivered to the Government, and the vendor, at the time of sale, agreed to take bonds or stock in payment of the price, and the said bonds or stock may bear date on the day of issue, or on the day the vendor was entitled to receive payment, but if dated on the day of issue, the interest which would have accrued had the bonds or stock been issued on the day the vendor was entitled to receive them shall be paid, and the said bonds or stock shall be issued under the same forms, conditions, and restrictions as are provided in the act entitled "An act to provide further means for the support of the Government," approved April fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two,

The committee moved to amend by adding at the end of the bill the following, to wit:

The Secretary of the Treasury shall also be authorized to issue like bonds to any person who shall have actually paid money into the hands of an agent of the Treasury for the purchase of eight per cent bonds of the one hundred million loan prior to twentieth February, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary, Mr. Nash; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 134. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods,' approved May sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," approved May 21, 1861, and numbered 170 of the acts of the second session of the Provisional Congress of 1861;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of the House.

A message was received from the President, by his Private Secretary, Mr. Harrison, informing the House that the President on the 22d instant approved and signed the following acts and joint resolutions:

H. R. 32. An act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to provide for an increase of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments,' approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;" also

H. R. 42. An act entitled "An act to liquidate a claim due to the State of Alabama for the steamer Florida;" also

H. R. 19. An act entitled "An act to establish a niter and mining bureau;" and

H. R. 9. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution for the relief of H. H. Epping."

Mr. Lyon, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred

A bill for the relief of collectors and all receiving officers and agents of the Government, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

And the question on postponing and [placing the same on the] Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States,* That all collectors of customs and public dues and all receiving officers or agents of the Government who may have received, innocently and in good faith, any counterfeit Treasury note or notes of the Confederate States as genuine, on account of the Government, which if genuine would be receivable in payment of public dues, and create an obligation on the part of the Government to pay the same prior to the day of , anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-two, are hereby relieved from all the penalties that might attach to him as a defaulter, when such default is the consequence of the reception of such counterfeit Treasury note.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of the Treasury, in his settlement with such officers or agents, when he is satisfied that such counterfeit Treasury note or notes were received prior to the day of , eighteen hundred and sixty-two; also, that it was received on account of the Government, innocently and in good faith, under the belief that such note was genuine, he may credit such officer with the amount of such counterfeit note or notes so received prior to the day aforesaid, as if the same were genuine.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Treasury shall require not only the oath of the party as to the time such counterfeit note or notes were received, and the good faith and the circumstances under which they were received, but he shall also require other proof, satisfactory to him, that such counterfeit note or notes were received before the day specified above, as the money of the Government, innocently and in good faith.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted,* That if anyone shall swear falsely to induce the Secretary of the Treasury to allow such officer or agent credit for any counterfeit Treasury note or notes, he, she, or they shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in a penitentiary for a term not less than five nor more than twenty years, and be fined in the sum of two thousand dollars.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted,* That if the Secretary of the Treasury should believe, on such investigation, that the party from whom such counterfeit note or notes have been received by such officer or agent can be identified and made liable for the same, he shall direct suit or suits to be brought, in the name of the Confederate States, against such person or persons, for the recovery of the amount of such counterfeit note or notes, which, when recovered, shall be paid into the Treasury of the Confederate States,

The committee moved to amend as follows, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers."

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact,* That if the Treasurer, any assistant treasurer, or depository of moneys of the Confederate States, or any clerk in the office of such Treasurer, assistant treasurer, or depository, or collector of taxes, shall, prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, in the course of the transaction of the lawful business of such office, have received in payment, or in any authorized deposit in such office, any counterfeit or forged Treasury notes, and shall establish, by proof, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury, that the receipt of any such counterfeit or forged Treasury note was not the result of a want of due diligence on the part of such officer, nor caused by his neglect, carelessness, or want of attention to his duties, said Secretary shall have power to relieve such officer from liability on account of any counterfeit forged Treasury notes so received.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the amendment of the committee by adding thereto as follows, to wit:

Be it further enacted, That if any disbursing agent of the Government shall pay out, or shall have paid out, counterfeit Treasury notes, the person to whom such notes shall have been paid shall be reimbursed, in genuine notes, upon satisfactory evidence to the Treasurer being made of such payment in counterfeit notes.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Foster moved to lay the bill on the table.

The motion was lost, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

And the title was amended by striking out the same and inserting as follows, to wit:

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers."

Mr. Lyon, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported back and recommended the passage of, with an amendment, Senate bill (S. 19) to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department.

And the question upon postponing and placing on the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up and read as follows, to wit: "a

The committee moved to amend by striking out all after the word "females," in the fourteenth line of section 2, and add "whose labor is necessary for their support."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until Wednesday next, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: { Yeas ----- 26
Nays ----- 36

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clopton, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Garnett, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Marshall, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Gray, Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, and Trippe.

So the motion did not prevail, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 36. An act to amend the first section of an act entitled "An act to amend the laws relative to the compensation of the attorneys of the Confederate States," approved March 15, 1861;

H. R. 37. An act to authorize the President to offer rewards for the apprehension of fugitives from justice;

H. R. 38. An act supplemental to an act to establish judicial courts in certain Indian Territories, approved February 15, 1862;

H. R. 44. An act for the relief of John Prosser Tabb; and

H. R. 46. An act for the relief of Lieut. Thomas T. Kirtland.

They have passed, with an amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 34. An act concerning fees of district attorneys;

In which amendment I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 16th instant, approve and sign an act entitled

S. 85. An act to establish a preferred mail across the Mississippi River.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, as follows, viz:

To the House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith for your information communications from the Secretary of War and the Attorney-General, in response to your resolution of February 15 [21], inquiring "whether the Government holds, or has at any time held, itself liable for the value of slaves impressed by its authority and escaping to the enemy while so impressed, and whether the owners of such slaves have been paid."

Whether the liability of the Government shall be extended to such cases is a question to be determined, not by the Executive, but by Congress.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill making appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the period therein mentioned; which was read first and second times.

And on motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the bill, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them, and upon a vote found the committee without a quorum.

Mr. Swan moved a call of the House; which was ordered.

Mr. Perkins moved that the House do now adjourn.

Upon which Mr. Curry demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit: } Yeas----- 27
 } Nays----- 30

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Chilton, Clapp, Conrow, Currin, Dupré, Ewing, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Kenner, Martin, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Bell, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garland, Gray, Heiskell, Holt, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion did not prevail.

And the House, on motion of Mr. Chilton, again resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and, through their Chairman, reported that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them, and recommended the passage of the bill with sundry amendments.

And the bill having been taken up and read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the support of the Government from the first day of

July, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to the thirty-first day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-three:

LEGISLATIVE.—For compensation and mileage of Members and Delegates of the House of Representatives, two hundred thousand four hundred and twenty dollars.

For compensation of officers, clerks, and so forth, of the House of Representatives, five thousand six hundred and twenty-five dollars.

For contingent expenses of the House of Representatives, fifteen thousand dollars.

For compensation and mileage of members of the Senate, forty-seven thousand dollars.

For contingent expenses of the Senate, eight thousand dollars.

For compensation of the officers, clerks, and so forth, of the Senate, eight thousand dollars.

EXECUTIVE.—For compensation of the President of the Confederate States, twelve thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation of the Vice-President of the Confederate States, three thousand dollars.

For compensation of the private secretary and messenger of the President, one thousand one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

For compensation of the private secretary of the Vice-President, five hundred dollars.

For contingent and telegraphic expenses of the Executive Office, seven thousand dollars.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.—For compensation of the Secretary of the Treasury, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Comptroller, Auditors, Treasurer, and Register, and clerks and messengers in said Department, three hundred and fifty thousand four hundred and ninety-two dollars and fifty cents.

For compensation of watchmen and laborers, one thousand three hundred and fifty-five dollars and fifty cents.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the Treasury Department, thirty-five thousand eight hundred and fifty-two dollars and sixty-one cents.

For interest on the public debt, twenty million dollars.

For engraving and printing Treasury notes, bonds, and certificates of stock, and for paper for the same, seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For the transmission of Confederate States funds, two hundred thousand dollars.

For the payment of principal, under loan of August nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, this sum being the amount due and payable on the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, one million two hundred and eighty-eight thousand seven hundred dollars.

For compensation of clerks to be employed in the detection of persons engaged in preparing and passing forged Treasury notes, five thousand dollars.

For traveling and other expenses incidental to the detection of persons employed in preparing and passing forged Treasury notes, five thousand dollars.

For compensation of officers, and contingent expenses, including wages of workmen, and pay of laborers, if necessary, for the mints and independent treasury, seventy-five thousand dollars.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—For compensation of the Secretary of War, Assistant Secretary, Chief of Bureau, clerks, messengers, and so forth, in said Department, one hundred and sixty-eight thousand dollars.

To liquidate the claims to [be] paid for river-defense service, ninety thousand dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the War Department, sixty thousand dollars.

For compensation of Commissioner and chief clerk of Indian Affairs, and incidental expenses of Bureau, two thousand and sixty-three dollars.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—For pay of the Army and for such increase of the pay of the privates in the Army as may be ordered by law, one hundred and sixty million dollars.

For the transportation of troops and their baggage, of quartermaster's stores, subsistence, ordnance, and ordnance stores, from place of purchase to troops in the field; purchase of horses, mules, wagons, and harness; purchase of lumber, nails, iron, and steel; for erecting storehouses, quarters for troops, and repairs; hire of teamsters, laborers, and so forth, fifty-six million four hundred and forty-seven thousand four hundred and seventy-five dollars.

For pay for horses of noncommissioned officers and privates killed in battle, under act numbered forty-eight, section seven, and for which provision is to be made, one hundred thousand dollars.

For pay for property pressed into service of the Confederate States under appraisement, said property having been either lost or applied to the public service, two hundred thousand dollars.

For the subsistence of prisoners of war, under act numbered one hundred and eighty-one, section one, and the hire of the necessary prisons, guardhouses, and so forth, for the safe-keeping of the same, or so much thereof as may be necessary, one million dollars.

For the pay of officers on duty in the offices of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Department, the Quartermaster-General's Department, Medical, Engineer, Ordnance, and Subsistence Departments, three hundred and eighty-eight thousand and twenty dollars.

COMMISSARY DEPARTMENT.—For the purchase of subsistence stores and commissary property, one hundred and thirty million eleven thousand three hundred and fifty-two dollars.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—For the ordnance service, in all its branches, seventeen million five hundred thousand dollars.

For the purchase of pig and rolled iron, five million dollars.

For the purchase and manufacture of niter, two million dollars.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.—For the engineer service, six million dollars.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—For pay of private physicians employed by contract, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For pay of nurses and cooks not enlisted or volunteers, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For pay of hospital stewards, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For pay of matrons, assistant matrons, and ward matrons, two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For pay of ward masters, one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.

For pay of hospital laundresses, sixty-five thousand dollars.

For medical and hospital supplies, three million five hundred thousand dollars.

For the establishment and support of military hospitals, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.—For amount required to comply with treaty stipulations entered into between the Confederate States and certain Indian tribes, one hundred and three thousand seven hundred dollars.

To meet the incidental expenses of the public service within the Indian tribes, fourteen thousand two hundred and twenty dollars.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.—For compensation of the Secretary of the Navy, clerks, and messengers, fourteen thousand seven hundred and twenty dollars and fifteen cents.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the Navy Department, twelve thousand dollars.

For pay of the Navy, one million three hundred and ninety-nine thousand one hundred and forty-one dollars and seventy cents.

For provisions and contingencies in the Paymaster's Department, one million three hundred and forty-three thousand one hundred dollars.

For construction of ironclad and other vessels in the Confederate States, two million dollars.

For ordnance and ordnance stores, one million three hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars.

For equipment and repair of vessels, three hundred thousand dollars.

For construction of submarine batteries, twenty thousand dollars.

For fuel for steamers, navy-yards, and stations, one million dollars.

For contingent enumerated, four hundred thousand dollars.

For surgeons' necessities, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

For support of the Marine Corps, three hundred and forty-five thousand two hundred and eleven dollars.

STATE DEPARTMENT.—For compensation of the Secretary of State, clerks, messenger, and laborer, seven thousand five hundred and twenty dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the State Department, five thousand dollars.

For salaries of commissioners and secretaries, thirty-nine thousand dollars.

For salaries of commercial agents, six thousand one hundred and fifty dollars.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—For compensation of the Attorney-General, Assistant Attorney-General, clerks, and messenger, six thousand six hundred dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the Department of Justice, one thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation of the Superintendent of Public Printing, clerk, and messenger, two thousand three hundred and thirty-three dollars and eighty cents.

For compensation of governor and Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Secretary, judges, attorney, and marshal of Arizona Territory, four thousand six hundred and fifty dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses of Arizona Territory, to be expended by the governor, four hundred and seventy-eight dollars and fifty cents.

For printing, binding, and ruling for the several Executive Departments, seventy-five thousand dollars.

For purchase of paper for the Executive Departments and Congress, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For salaries of judges, attorneys, and marshals, and incidental and contingent expenses of courts, fifty-five thousand and fifty dollars.

For compensation of three commissioners appointed under the sequestration act, and for clerk hire and contingent expenses, four thousand three hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation of judges, attorneys, and marshals of districts in certain Indian Territories, one thousand seven hundred dollars.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.—For compensation of the Postmaster-General, chiefs of bureaus, clerks, messengers, watchmen, and laborers, fifty-six thousand three hundred and eighty-nine dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the Post-Office Department, ten thousand dollars.

For compensation of agents, cost of materials, and constructing, repairing, and operating telegraph lines, fifty thousand dollars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—For rent of Executive buildings and President's house, ten thousand dollars.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated for the support of the Government for the period herein mentioned.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—For contingent and incidental expenses of the Army until the thirty-first day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, one hundred thousand dollars.

For compensation of additional clerks in the War Department from February first, to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For contingent and incidental expenses of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, fifteen thousand dollars.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.—For the engineer service, additional appropriation from February first to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, two million dollars.

INDIAN SERVICE.—For payment of treaty stipulations made with certain Indian tribes to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, two hundred and twenty-six thousand three hundred and sixty dollars and fifty-seven cents.

For current and contingent expenses of agencies in the Indian service from December first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, seven thousand one hundred and ninety-nine dollars and ninety-eight cents.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—For hospital clothing required by act of Congress approved September twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, entitled "An act to better provide for the sick and wounded of the Army in hospitals," six hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

For two hundred and one thousand and six hundred gallons of alcoholic stimulants, required by the Medical Department for medical and hospital purposes for the Army, for one year, six hundred and four thousand and eight hundred dollars. For additional amount required for the purchase of medical and hospital supplies from February first to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, one million dollars.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—For the ordnance service in all its branches, for the period ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, five million dollars.

Amendments of committee agreed to.

Engrossed and passed.

Yeas and nays, under Constitution, and passed.

[And are recorded as follows, to wit:] { Yeas 55
Nays 5

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe,

Holt, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Harris, Heiskell, Preston, and Smith of North Carolina.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 16th instant, approve an act entitled

S. 52. An act to fix the rank of officers in the military and naval service of the Confederate States holding commissions under the Provisional Government when reappointed to offices of the same grade under the Permanent Government.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the President relative to the liability of the Government for slaves which had been impressed and which had escaped to the enemy, in response to a resolution of the House of February 21, 1863.

The message was ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred

A bill in relation to impressments, reported the same back and asked to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Miles moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Holcombe moved to lay the bill upon the table.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	{ Yeas	28
	{ Nays	30

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Collier, Currin, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenner, Marshall, McLean, Miles, Munnerlyn, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Batson, Boyce, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, and Welsh.

So the House refused to lay the bill upon the table.

The question then recurring on the reference of the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	{ Yeas	29
	{ Nays	32

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Collier, De Jarnette, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Holt, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Marshall, McLean, Miles, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Atkins, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Menees, Munner-

lyn, Perkins, Ralls, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, and Welsh.

So the motion to refer to the Committee on the Judiciary was lost.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Harris, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a memorial of M. Tochman, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on Claims and printed; which was agreed to.

Mr. Swan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill relative to putting foreigners in the Army.

The question being on postponing and placing the bill on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Boyce moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the previous question.

The demand was not sustained.

And on motion of Mr. Gray,

The House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.^a

EIGHTY-FIFTH DAY—SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Duncan.

The Speaker announced that the first business in order was the election of a clerk of the House to succeed Robert E. Dixon, deceased.

Mr. H. W. Bruce nominated Albert R. Lamar, of the State of Georgia.

No other person being placed in nomination, the House proceeded to vote, and

Mr. Lamar was unanimously elected.

The Speaker then administered to Mr. Lamar the oath of office, and he entered upon his duties.

Mr. Hodge, by unanimous consent, introduced the following preamble and resolution: which were adopted, viz:

Whereas the House of Representatives has been deprived of a most faithful public officer in the death of its late clerk, Robert E. Dixon, and it is meet on so solemn an occasion that it should honor the dead who served it while living: Therefore,

Resolved, That his funeral expenses and cost of transportation be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, and that his body be transmitted under the care and superintendence of the Doorkeeper to his family at their residence in Columbus, Georgia.

Mr. McQueen moved to reconsider the vote by which Mr. Chilton's amendment to the resolution offered by Mr. Garnett, relative to the call of committees, had been adopted; which was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion was lost.

The Speaker laid before the House the following Senate resolution, viz:

Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring), That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives adjourn their respective Houses, sine die, on Friday, the first day of May next, at two o'clock postmeridian.

^a The Journal of the session of April 24, 1863, has not been found.

Mr. McQueen moved to strike out "Friday, the first day of May," and insert "Tuesday, the twenty-eighth day of April," and upon his motion called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 30
 } Nays----- 45

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Bell, Boyce, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Garland, Goode, Heiskell, Holt, Kenan of North Carolina, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Royston, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

The question recurring on the passage of the resolution,

Mr. H. W. Bruce demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 46
 } Nays----- 28

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boyce, Chambers, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Curry moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and thereupon called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Curry's motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Conrad asked leave to change his vote on the passage of the resolution, upon the ground that he had voted in the affirmative for the purpose of moving a reconsideration.

Objection was made, and Mr. Conrad was not permitted to change his vote.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, respecting the produce loan; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Speaker also laid before the House a communication from the Attorney-General relative to certain claims; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 36. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the first section of an act entitled 'An act to amend the laws relative to the compensation of the attorneys of the Confederate States,' approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;"

H. R. 37. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the President to offer rewards for the apprehension of fugitives from justice;"

H. R. 38. A bill to be entitled "An act supplemental to an act to establish judicial courts in certain Indian Territories, approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;"

H. R. 44. A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of John Prosser Tabb;"

H. R. 12. A joint resolution authorizing the payment of rent for the building occupied by the Quartermaster's Department;

S. 94. A bill to be entitled "An act to establish the form of fifty-cent Treasury notes;" and

S. 89. A bill to be entitled "An act to abolish supernumerary offices in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Chambers, from the same committee, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 14. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize newspapers to be mailed to soldiers free of postage;" and

S. 110. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to lease a site near the city of Richmond for the preparation and safe-keeping of ordnance stores."

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 40. An act to prescribe the rates of postage on newspapers, periodicals, books, and transient and other matter, and to repeal in part the second section of the act approved May thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, to amend an act to prescribe the rates of postage in the Confederate States of America, and for other purposes, approved February 23, 1861; and

H. R. 48. An act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers.

Mr. Hartridge introduced the following joint resolutions; which were read the first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, viz:

Joint resolutions of thanks to the officers and soldiers engaged in the defense of Fort McAllister, Georgia.

The Congress of the Confederate States do resolve, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to the officers and soldiers engaged in the defense of Fort McAllister, Georgia, on the first February and third March last, for the gallantry and endurance with which they successfully resisted the attacks of the iron-clad vessels of the enemy.

Resolved further, That the foregoing resolution be communicated by the Secretary of War to the general commanding the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and by him made known in appropriate general orders to the officers and troops to whom they are addressed.

Mr. Gray introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to an act to raise money for the support of the Government, and to provide for the defense of

the Confederate States of America, approved February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Wilcox introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to change the place of holding the district court for the western district of Texas;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Wilcox presented a memorial from officers and members of Company B, Seventh Regiment Texas Mounted Volunteers (Third Regiment of Sibley's brigade), asking compensation for horses and equipments lost in the service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Boyce presented a memorial from sundry clerks in the Executive Departments, asking for an increase of salary; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Lyons presented a petition from Nicholas Carroll and others in relation to liquors seized and confiscated by the provost-marshal of Richmond; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Machen offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting by law the trade carried on between citizens of the Confederate States and the United States, and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Royston presented a joint preamble and resolutions adopted by the general assembly of Arkansas relative to the erection of a manufactory of clothing for the army of the Trans-Mississippi Department; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Bell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to fix the salary of the Commissioner of Patents;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Patents.

Mr. Herbert introduced the following resolution; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of the country are due to Major O. M. Watkins and the gallant officers and men under his command for the brilliant victory achieved by them on the twenty-first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, off Sabine Pass, attacking two of the enemy's gunboats and capturing them thirty miles at sea.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform the House whether, in executing the act of October eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, to repeal the law authorizing commutation of clothing and requiring clothing to be provided by the Secretary of War in kind, he has caused the soldiers to be charged with the value or cost of the clothing furnished to them by the Government, and whether the soldiers are required to pay or account for the price or cost of any such clothing.

Mr. Russell also introduced the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the House the reports of the battle of McDowell.

Mr. Barksdale introduced the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish this House with a copy of the finding of the court of inquiry in the case of Commander John K. Mitchell, Confederate States Navy, in command of certain vessels at New Orleans during the attack on that city.

Mr. Wright of Georgia presented a series of resolutions passed by the legislature of Georgia, recommending an increase in the pay of soldiers.

The resolutions were read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Trippe presented a series of resolutions passed by the legislature of Georgia relative to running the blockade between the Confederate States and United States, and requesting the Senators and Representatives from Georgia to secure the passage of an act of Congress to prevent the same.

The resolutions were referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Garland presented a memorial from Johannes Roth and others in relation to the ship *Princess Royal*.

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Curry presented a memorial from the Alabama Baptist State Convention in favor of such legislative enactments as will prevent the unnecessary violations of the Sabbath.

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Boteler presented a memorial from Capt. David Meade relative to the loss of \$1,000, of which he asked to be relieved by Congress.

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Goode presented a petition from sundry citizens of Pittsylvania County, Va., in relation to the arrest of deserters.

The petition was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Trippe presented a design for a Confederate flag; which was referred to the Committee on Flag and Seal.

Mr. Barksdale presented a design for a Confederate flag; which was referred to the same committee.

Mr. Atkins presented a design for a Confederate flag; which was also referred to the same committee.

Mr. Barksdale, under a suspension of the rules, reported back from the Committee on Printing a Senate bill (S. 13) to be entitled "An act in relation to the public printing," with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up, and having been read as follows, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the public printing."

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Secretary of the Senate, immediately after the adjournment of each session of Congress, shall prepare a fair copy of the Journal of the Senate, in open session, together with any portion of its secret proceedings from which the injunction of secrecy may have been removed, fully indexed, and shall deliver the same, properly certified, as soon as possible, to the Attorney-General. The Clerk of the House of Representatives, immediately after each session, shall prepare a fair copy of the Journal of that body, in open session, together with any portion of its secret proceedings from which the injunction of secrecy may have been removed, fully indexed, and shall deliver the same, properly certified, as soon as possible, to the Attorney-General. Said copies

of the journals shall not contain unnecessary breaks, blanks, or paragraphs, but all matter relating to one subject shall be included within the same paragraph, according to the usual rules in relation to ordinary composition. The Attorney-General shall arrange the acts and resolutions under appropriate titles, affix marginal notes to each section, and index the same. Three thousand copies of said acts and resolutions shall be printed in form and style equal in every respect to the laws of the United States as annually published by Little & Brown. Fifteen hundred copies of the journal of each House shall be printed on good paper, in small-pica type, the text of which shall be in pages of fifty printed lines, exclusive of folio, and containing twenty-nine ems to the line. The index, in pages of same size, shall be printed in bourgeois or brevier: *Provided*, That no proposals for the printing of the journals shall be made until further ordered by Congress. The Attorney-General shall advertise one time, in one paper published at the capital of each State, or other place, as he may deem advisable, within said State, for sealed proposals for the delivery to him, at his office, on or before a day to be designated, of the acts and journals complete, in accordance with the above specifications. Said proposals shall state the rate per page for the text and the index, separately, at which the person offers to contract; and the party offering to perform said work for the least sum shall be entitled to receive the same. The printing of the acts and journals shall not necessarily be embraced in a single contract, but the acts may be awarded to one person, and the journals, or either of them, to other bidders. The persons obtaining such contracts shall enter into bond with good securities, in such amount and within such time as the Attorney-General may require, conditioned for the faithful performance of their contracts. Should any party fail to execute a bond as required, his contract shall thereby be forfeited at the option of the Attorney-General, and the party rendered liable for damages for such failure. Upon forfeiture of any contract, another may be made with the next lowest bidder, and so on until the list of bidders is exhausted, or the Attorney-General may again advertise for other proposals. Should no proposal for all or any part of said work be reasonable, the Attorney-General may reject them, and report the fact to the next session of Congress. Any person obtaining a contract may print and sell, on his own account, any number of said acts or journals.

SEC. 2. That the laws, in pamphlet form, shall be distributed as follows: Two copies to each member of Congress for the time being; twenty copies each to the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives, to be retained in their respective offices; one copy to each committee of each House of Congress; five copies each to the President and Vice-President; two hundred copies to the Department of State, for its own use and for distribution among the diplomatic and consular officers of the Confederate States; two hundred copies to the Department of the Treasury, for its own use and for distribution amongst the revenue officers of the Government; one hundred copies to the Department of Justice, for its own use and for distribution amongst the judges, clerks, marshals, and attorneys of the Confederate States; fifty copies each to the Departments of War and Navy and to the Postmaster-General, and five copies each to the governors of the several States, for the use of the States. The remainder shall be carefully preserved in the Department of Justice, to be bound in calf, in a substantial manner, as often as the number of pages shall be sufficient to form a volume of not less than eight hundred nor more than one thousand pages. Whenever said volumes are thus to be bound, a new index shall be prepared by the Attorney-General, comprising the contents of the whole volume. The remaining copies shall be kept in the Department of Justice, subject to the general order of Congress.

SEC. 3. That all acts and resolutions signed by the President, or which may otherwise become laws, shall be deposited in the Department of Justice, and the originals there carefully preserved. The Attorney-General shall affix marginal notes to the acts and resolutions, fully index the same, and cause fair and exact copies of the said acts, resolutions, notes, and index to be made for delivery to the contractor by whom the same are to be printed.

SEC. 4. That the journals shall be distributed as follows: Two copies of each to every person who was a member of Congress at any time during said session; ten copies each to the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House of Representatives, to be kept in their respective offices; five copies to each State for every five Representatives from such State in the Congress of the Confederate States; five hundred copies of each shall be carefully preserved in the Department of Justice, and shall be bound together, in sheep, when hereafter directed by Congress, and the remaining copies shall be kept in said Department, subject to the general order of Congress.

SEC. 5. That all printing in pamphlet form ordered by Congress shall be in pages four and a half inches wide by eight inches long, including folio, without separate title-page, without needless indentings, breaks, blanks, and separations. The general

body thereof shall not be printed on type smaller than long primer nor larger than small pica, and for such work the Public Printer shall receive the following compensation: For composition, one dollar and twenty-five cents per one thousand ems; for presswork, folding, and stitching, one dollar and twenty-five cents per token. Bills and resolutions upon which final action is yet to be taken shall be printed in small-pica type, in pages eight inches long by four and a half inches wide, the lines of each section numbered in the margin, and with space between the lines not wider than a bourgeois line. For the composition on such work the Public Printer shall receive one dollar per one thousand ems; for the presswork, folding, and stitching, one dollar per token. The pay for yeas and nays shall be fifty cents per one hundred copies for either House. The compensation for all miscellaneous printing ordered by Congress shall be one dollar and twenty-five cents per one thousand ems, and presswork of the same one dollar and twenty-five cents per token. For all strictly rule-and-figure work the compensation for composition shall be one hundred per cent higher than for plain work. Composition shall be charged but once for documents ordered by each House of Congress unless the type has been distributed.

SEC. 6. All work in pamphlet form and all miscellaneous printing for the Executive Departments shall be done by the Public Printer, who shall receive the same compensation allowed for similar work when ordered by Congress.

SEC. 7. The chief officers of the Executive Departments shall advertise for sealed proposals for the printing of all blanks required in their several Departments, and also for all ruling and binding, as far as practicable, under such specifications as they may deem necessary—in the same manner, in all respects, as is herein provided in regard to contracts for the printing of the laws and journals.

SEC. 8. That the usual rates paid by other advertisers shall be allowed for all advertisements inserted in public gazettes, by authority of the Government, unless otherwise ordered or agreed; but no advertisement shall be inserted in more than three newspapers in any State.

SEC. 9. That when printing on parchment is required by any Department, the parchment shall be furnished by such Department, and a special contract made for such printing, not to exceed ten dollars per thousand copies.

SEC. 10. That each House of Congress shall elect its own Public Printer, who shall hold his office for two years from the date of his election and until his successor is chosen, and shall give bond for the faithful performance of his duty in the sum of five thousand dollars.

SEC. 11. That it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Printing to purchase all paper of every description required by Congress, the Executive Departments, or the public printing to be performed by the Public Printer under the general provisions of this act, and not by special contract: *Provided*, All such contracts shall be approved by the Attorney-General; and all paper delivered to the Departments shall be furnished upon the written orders of chiefs of bureaus, which orders shall be filed.

SEC. 12. That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House, and the chief officers of the Executive Departments to furnish to the said Superintendent, in writing, properly signed, all orders for printing required by Congress or any Department, which orders shall be filed.

SEC. 13. That the Superintendent shall furnish the Public Printer with all paper required for printing, under the general provisions of this act, and of such description as said Superintendent may determine; and shall supervise, direct, and control such printing, both in regard to the general execution of the work and the order and time in which it shall be completed; and shall give his counsel and assistance to the chiefs of Departments, whenever required, in relation to the printing herein required to be done by special contract or otherwise.

SEC. 14. That all accounts of the Public Printer shall be accompanied with a copy of every job or document specified in the accounts; and no account shall be audited and allowed by the Superintendent unless accompanied by such vouchers and the affidavit of its correctness. Said account and vouchers, when allowed, shall be filed, each year separately, in the office of the Superintendent. A duplicate of said account and affidavit presented by the Public Printer, when audited and allowed, shall authorize its payment. On a refusal by the Superintendent to accept work done or to allow any account rendered, an appeal may be taken to the head of the Department of Justice, whose decision shall be final.

SEC. 15. That the prices to be paid to the Public Printer, herein specified, shall at all times be subject to the alteration and control of Congress as to work subsequently ordered.

SEC. 16. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed,

Mr. Perkins offered the following amendment.

Provided, That nothing contained in this act shall be so construed as to take from the Speaker of the House the right to revise and correct the said Journal before it is filed with the Attorney-General: *And provided further*, That he is authorized to employ such additional clerks for making the transcripts as he may deem necessary, to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House;

which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until Tuesday next, and that it be printed; which was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following Senate bills:

S. 76. A bill to be entitled "An act to regulate the extra pay allowed soldiers detailed for duty as clerks in the city of Richmond;"

S. 111. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the issue of eight per cent bonds or certificates of stock in certain cases;" and

S. 129. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments by officers of the Army.'"

And the same were signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Hilton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the rank, pay, and allowance of adjutants of regiments and independent battalions;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Welsh introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to declare that martial law can not exist within the Confederate States, and prescribing a penalty for declaring the same;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of certain claims against the Confederate States, and making appropriation therefor;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Conrad moved that the consideration of reports from the Committee on Naval Affairs be made the special order at 12 o'clock m. on Tuesday next.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to improve the condition of railroads, and to facilitate transportation;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments.

Mr. Kenner moved that Monday next be set apart for the consideration of reports from the Committee on Ways and Means; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the compensation of persons employed by commanding generals as provost-marshal's from civil life,"

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from the further consideration thereof, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the same committee, reported

An act to provide compensation for certain provost-marshals, commandants of posts, and provost guards; which was read first and second times.

Messrs. Welsh, Read, and Vest asked leave to attend a coroner's inquest, with the privilege of recording their votes on the pending question when they returned.

The leave of absence as asked for was granted.

The question upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill, which is as follows, was taken up for consideration:

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for compensation to certain provost-marshals, commandants of posts, and provost guards."

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That persons who have been appointed provost-marshals and commandants of posts from civil life by the commander of a department shall receive a rate of compensation for the time actually in service, not to exceed the pay of a captain of infantry. Persons taken from civil life to serve as provost guards shall receive the same rate of compensation for the time of actual service that is allowed to soldiers of the Provisional Army for a like grade of service: Provided, That such compensation shall be made under rules and regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: After the word "Department," in the fourth line, insert "in places where the writ of habeas corpus was suspended by the President, under authority of Congress."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. McRae moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: Add at the end of the first section

Provided, That in cases in which officers who have been in the military service of the States, and whose terms as State officers had expired, have been appointed commandants of posts by commanding generals of departments, the pay of such commandants of posts shall be the same as that of officers of the Provisional Army of the Confederacy of similar rank to that which those officers held in the State service.

Mr. Hanly moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. De Jarnette demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	36
Nays	26

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Currin, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munmerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Garnett, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Marshall, Menees, Perkins, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Trippe.

So the motion prevailed.

And the House, at half past 2 o'clock p. m., adjourned to 11 o'clock a. m. on Monday next.

EIGHTY-SIXTH DAY—MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with [prayer] by the Rev. Mr. Read.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills of this House entitled

H. R. 58. An act to admit free of duty all machinery for the manufacture of cotton or wool, or necessary for carrying on any of the mechanic arts; and

H. R. 60. An act to declare the meaning and extend the provisions of an act entitled "An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments," approved October 13, 1862.

They have passed, with amendments, the bill of this House entitled

H. R. 30. An act to punish forgery and counterfeiting;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to bills of the Senate of the following titles, viz:

S. 76. An act to regulate the extra pay allowed soldiers detailed for duty as clerks in the city of Richmond;

S. 111. An act to authorize the issue of eight per cent bonds or certificates of stock in certain cases; and

S. 129. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate impressments by officers of the Army."

They have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 109. An act to provide for dropping officers of the Army who are absent without leave;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from Hon. John B. Baldwin, asking leave of absence for two or three days.

The leave of absence was granted.

Mr. McQueen asked leave of absence for Hon. C. F. Collier.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays on the question of granting the leave;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas..... 34
 { Nays..... 21

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Clopton, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Herbert, Holt, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McLean, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Boyce, Clapp, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Freeman, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Kenner, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the leave of absence was granted.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of Saturday.

The question being upon the amendment of Mr. McRae,

It was decided in the negative.

The question then recurring on the amendment of Mr. Gray,

The same was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

The question being upon its passage as amended,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Brigadier-General Forrest and the officers and men under his command, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the joint resolution and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred joint resolutions of thanks to the officers and men engaged in the defense of Fort McAllister, Ga., reported back the same, with a recommendation that they do pass.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the joint resolutions and placing them on the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The joint resolutions were engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that on the 24th instant the President approved and signed an act entitled

H. R. 18. An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 73. An act to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war, reported the same back and recommended that it do pass.

The question upon postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That a general commanding a department or an army in the field may assign to duty, as chief of staff, one of the general officers under his command, who shall, under his direction, be charged with the general administration of such department or army; and one of the brigadier-generals under his command as inspector-general. There shall also be allowed to a general so commanding as above, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, one adjutant-general, one chief quartermaster, one chief commissary, and one chief of ordnance, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a colonel of cavalry; and one surgeon, as medical director, with the pay and allowances of a colonel of cavalry; one aid-de-camp, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry; one with rank, pay, and allowances of a major of cavalry, and one with the rank, pay, and allowances of a captain of cavalry.

SEC. 2. That to a lieutenant-general commanding an army corps shall be allowed, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, one assistant inspector-general, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a colonel of cavalry; one assistant adjutant-general, one chief quartermaster, one chief commissary, and one chief of ordnance, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry; one surgeon, as medical director, with the pay and allowances of a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry; one aid-de-camp, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a major of cavalry; one with the rank, pay, and allowances of a captain of cavalry, and one with the rank, pay, and allowances of a first lieutenant of cavalry.

SEC. 3. That a major-general commanding a division shall be allowed, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, one assistant inspector-general, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a lieutenant-colonel of cavalry; one assistant adjutant-general, one chief quartermaster, one chief commissary, and one chief of ordnance, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a major of cavalry; also a surgeon, with the pay and allowances of a major of cavalry; two aids-de-camp, with

the rank, pay, and allowances of a captain of cavalry, and one with the rank, pay, and allowances of a first lieutenant of cavalry.

SEC. 4. That a brigadier-general commanding a brigade shall be allowed, to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, one assistant inspector-general, one assistant adjutant-general, one chief quartermaster, one chief commissary, one chief of ordnance, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a major of cavalry; one surgeon, with the pay and allowances of a major of cavalry; one aide-de-camp, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a captain of cavalry, and one with the rank, pay, and allowances of a first lieutenant of cavalry.

SEC. 5. That the officers assigned to duty, or appointed to armies, army corps, divisions, or brigades, under this act, shall, with the exception of aids-de-camp, form a part and remain attached to the several organizations to which they are assigned or appointed, except when otherwise directed by the President.

SEC. 6. That all appointments under this act shall be made from officers who are now or have been in service, or from privates who have served twelve months in the field or distinguished themselves in battle.

SEC. 7. No more officers shall be allowed in the staff of general officers other than those provided by this act, except such as may be assigned for duty as assistant inspectors-general or assistant adjutants-general.

Mr. Hartridge offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Insert, in line 14, before the word "pay," the word "rank," and add, in line 15, after the word "cavalry," the words "such rank to entitle the medical director to command only in his own corps."

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the bill by striking out section 6.

Mr. Kenner demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Atkins was agreed to.

The bill as amended was engrossed and read a third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 42
Nays----- 25

Yeas: Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Clapp, Clopton, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lyon, Marshall, McLean, McRae, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill as amended was passed.

Upon motion of Mr. Kenner,

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 90. An act relative to certain bonds and treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved May 16, 1861.

The Senate have refused to concur in the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 19. An act to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department.

The Chair presented a message from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., April 24, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering additional estimates of the sum required for the support of the Government from July 1 to December 31, 1863.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. McRae, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported back a communication from the Attorney-General, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to.

Mr. McRae, from the same committee, reported back

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of certain claims against the Confederate States and making appropriation therefor,"

asked to be discharged from the further consideration thereof, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the report of the committee was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to supply omissions in the act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Garnett, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act concerning the pay and allowances due deceased soldiers, approved February sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two,"

reported the same back, asked to be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett, from the same committee, to which had been referred a House bill to be entitled "An act to allow commutation for clothing to the militia in actual service of the Confederate States," with a Senate amendment, reported the same back, with a recommendation that the House concur in the amendment.

The question being upon postponing and placing the bill on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That there shall be allowed and paid to the militia of any State who have been or may hereafter be called into the service of the Confederate States under authority of existing laws, to each private and noncommissioned officer, commutation for clothing for the time of actual service at the rate of fifty dollars per annum, deducting therefrom the value of any clothing which may have been issued them, or commutation therefor which may have been allowed them.

SEC. 2. All claims for commutation under authority of this act made by any of the militia who have been heretofore paid shall be settled by the Second Auditor, with the approval of the Comptroller of the Treasury.

The question being on agreeing to the Senate amendment, which is as follows, viz:

Insert after the word "service," in line 8, the words "at the rate of forty-two dollars a year, up to the thirtieth August, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and after that date,"

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate.

reported back the same, with a recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative.

The bill was taken up for consideration and read as follows, to wit:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to purchase or lease any and all real estate which may by him be deemed necessary for the use of the Government in the conduct of those works or operations submitted by law to the supervision or control of the War Department, and for which appropriations are made by Congress.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to ratify and complete any purchase or lease of real estate heretofore made under the direction of the Chief of Ordnance, and all such leases or purchases heretofore made shall be binding as soon as the same are approved by the Secretary of War.

The question being on the amendment proposed by the committee, which is as follows:

Add as section 3 the following:

"Every purchase of freehold estate made by authority of this act shall be subject to the condition that the consent of the State within whose limits it lies shall be obtained by the Confederate Government,"

The same was agreed to, and the bill as amended was then read a third time and passed.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *April 24, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, in response to your resolution of the 2d instant, asking for certain information relative to hospitals and the provision for the sick and wounded of the Army in them.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying document were ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on the Medical Department.

The Speaker also laid before the House the following message from the President:

RICHMOND, VA., *April 25, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate for the contingent expenses of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office for the six months ending December 31, 1863.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying document were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair also laid before the House the following message from the President, viz:

RICHMOND, April 25, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Postmaster-General, submitting an estimate of the amount required to prepare a building for the post-office for the city of Richmond.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying document were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to provide for dropping officers of the Army;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Bridgers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 81. An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the troops heretofore raised by the State of North Carolina, under requisitions made on that State by the Confederate States, shall be paid from the date of their enlistment.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment of the committee, which is as follows, to wit:

Strike out the words "under requisitions made on that State" and insert in lieu thereof "and afterwards received into the service of the Confederate States,"

The same was agreed to, and the bill as amended was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States,' approved February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The bill was taken up for consideration, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, notifying the House that the President has to-day approved and signed the following joint resolution and acts:

H. R. 12. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution authorizing the payment of rent for the building occupied by the Quartermaster's Department;" also

H. R. 38. An act entitled "An act supplemental to an act to establish judicial courts in certain Indian Territories," approved February 15, 1862; also

H. R. 37. An act to authorize the President to offer rewards for the apprehension of fugitives from justice; also

H. R. 36. An act entitled "An act to amend the first section of an act entitled 'An act to amend the laws relative to the compensation of

the attorneys of the Confederate States,' approved March fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one."

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to pay officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates not legally mustered into the service of the Confederate States for services actually performed," reported the same back, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the bill on the Calendar, It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred a House bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled 'An act to exempt certain persons from military service,' approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," which had been amended by the Senate, reported back the same with sundry amendments to the Senate amendments.

The question on postponing the further consideration of the bill and placing it upon the Calendar being decided in the negative,

The amendments of the Senate were read as follows, viz:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert

"That certain persons, as hereinafter provided, are and shall be exempt from military service in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

"I. For the police of slaves, one person on each farm or plantation, the sole property of a minor, person of unsound mind, a feme sole, or a person absent from home in the military or naval service of the Confederacy, on which there are twenty or more slaves: *Provided*, The person so exempted was employed and acting as an overseer previous to the fifteenth [sixteenth?] of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and there is no white male adult on said farm or plantation who is not liable to military duty, which fact shall be verified by the affidavits of said person and two respectable citizens, and shall be filed with the enrolling officer: *And provided*, That the enrolling officer shall be satisfied that no white male adult not liable to military duty can be obtained, by ordinary diligence, suitable for said purpose: *Provided further*, That this clause shall not extend to any farm or plantation on which the negroes have been placed by division from any other farm or plantation since the eleventh day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

"II. That on any farm on which resides a family of white women and children, not less than ten in number, who are dependent for support and protection on the labor and presence of a white man, and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military duty, or male minor or minors capable of working said farm, there shall be exempted one person as laborer, when said person shall verify the facts aforesaid by his own and the affidavit of two respectable citizens, to be filed with the enrolling officer, and shall also make affidavit that said person so to be exempted designs in good faith to act in said capacity on said farm; and in the event of a failure to do so at any time thereafter, this exemption, as to said person, shall cease: *Provided*, The enrolling officer shall be satisfied that a white male adult not liable to military duty can not be procured suitable for said purpose.

"III. Those who shall be held unfit for service in the field by reason of bodily or mental incapacity—to be ascertained by a surgeon of the Army who is not a resident of the part of the country from which those he is called upon to examine may have come—and persons declared to be unfit for duty in the field under this act or under the act entitled 'An act to establish places of rendezvous for the examination of enrolled men,' approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, by reason of any organic disease or permanent disability, shall not be afterward subject to be again examined and enrolled.

"IV. The Vice-President of the Confederate States, and the officers, judicial and executive, of the Confederate and State governments, including postmasters appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and such clerks and employees in their offices as are allowed, in writing, by the Postmaster-General, and excluding all other postmasters, their assistants and clerks, and except such State officers as the several States may have declared or may hereafter declare, by law, to be liable to military duty. Members of both Houses of the Congress of the Confederate States and of the legislatures of the several States, and their respective officers.

"V. All volunteer troops heretofore raised by any State since the passage of the act further to provide for the public defense, approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while such troops shall be in active service under State authority: *Provided*, This exemption shall not include any person liable to military duty under said last-named act.

"VI. Pilots and persons actually and regularly engaged in the merchant marine service.

"VII. The presidents, superintendents, conductors, treasurer, chief clerk, engineers, managers, station agents, section masters, two expert track hands to each section of eight miles, and mechanics in the active service and employment of railroad companies, not to embrace laborers, porters, and messengers: *Provided*, That no president or conductor of any railroad company or railroad train shall be exempted from military service under this act when such president or conductor shall fail, neglect, or refuse to furnish seats to such wounded or sick soldiers of the Army as may desire transportation over such railroad, and fresh water, for drinking purposes, in such tanks or other vessels in each passenger car as may be necessary for the use of said sick and wounded, and also the necessary fires to render said cars comfortable.

"VIII. Captains of boats, and the engineers thereof, actually and regularly engaged in canal and river navigation; the president of any canal company, the secretary, chief clerk, chief toll gatherer, and such mechanics in the permanent service of said company as the president, under oath, shall declare to be necessary and now employed; the president, the general superintendent, and operators of telegraphic companies, and the local operators of said companies, not to exceed two in number at any telegraphic office but that at the seat of government of the Confederate States.

"IX. One editor of each newspaper now being published, and such journeymen printers, engineers, pressmen, and stenographic reporters as the editor or proprietors thereof may certify, upon oath, to be indispensable for conducting the publication; the Public Printer, engineers, pressmen, and such number of journeymen printers as he may certify, upon oath, to be necessary for the discharge of his duty.

"X. Every minister of religion authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect, and now in the discharge of ministerial duty, and all persons who have been, since the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and now are, members of the Society of Friends, or the Association of Dunkards, Nazarenes, or Mennonists, in regular membership in their respective denominations: *Provided*, That such members shall furnish a substitute or pay a tax of five hundred dollars each into the public treasury.

"XI. All shoemakers, tanners, blacksmiths, wagonmakers, millers and their engineers, and millwrights, skilled and actually employed on the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in said trades as their regular vocation, and working therein for the public, and who have since said time been so regularly employed: *Provided*, Said persons shall make oath, in writing, supported by the affidavits of two creditable persons (which affidavit shall be delivered to the enrolling officer), that they, said artisans and mechanics, are so skilled and are, and have been, since the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, actually employed in one of the above trades as their regular vocations, and working for the public; also the superintendents and operators in wool and cotton factories, paper mills, and carding machines, and in card factories, and in factories for the manufacture of wire for cotton and wool cards: *Provided*, That the exemptions herein granted to persons on account of their mechanical skill or occupation shall be subject to the condition that the product of the labor of said exempts shall not exceed a fair and reasonable amount, and to be within a maximum to be fixed by the Secretary of War, under such regulations as he may prescribe: *And provided*, That in the case of the superintendents and operators in wool and cotton factories, paper mills, carding machines, and mechanics in these and all other manufacturing establishments, the manufactured articles shall be sold at a net profit not to exceed thirty per centum upon the capital invested, which fact shall be ascertained by the oath of the president, superintendent, or proprietors of such manufacturing establishment: *And provided also*, The presidents or proprietors of said establishments shall make affidavit, in writing, to be filed with the Secretary of War, that the superintendents and operators therein are skilled as such and indispensable to said establishments: *And provided*, If it shall be shown, upon evidence to be submitted to and judged of by the Secretary of War, that any manufacturing establishment has violated this condition, the exemption herein granted shall no longer be extended to the persons employed in said establishments or factories, but each of them shall be forthwith enrolled and placed in the military service.

"XII. All presidents and professors of colleges and theological seminaries who have been regularly engaged as such for the two years last preceding the eleventh of Octo-

ber, eighteen hundred and sixty-two; all superintendents of lunatic asylums and the regular physicians, nurses, and attendants therein, and all teachers regularly employed in institutions for the deaf, dumb, and blind.

"XIII. All physicians who now are, and have been for the last five years, in the actual practice of their professions; and in each apothecary-store now established and doing business, one practical apothecary in good standing as such.

"XIV. All artisans and mechanics employed in the manufacture of arms or ordnance of any kind, ordnance stores or other munitions of war or army supplies, by the several States, or by contractors to furnish the same to the several State governments, whom the governor or secretary of state thereof may certify to be necessary to the same: *Provided*, The persons contracting with said State government shall make oath, in writing, to be filed with the Secretary of War, that said employees are indispensable, on account of their skill, to the successful performance of their contract.

"XV. All persons employed, under the authority of the Secretary of the Navy, in the construction of ships, gunboats, engines, sails, or other articles necessary to the public defense.

"XVI. Superintendents, mechanics, and miners employed in the production and manufacture of lead and iron; also persons engaged in burning coke for the smelting and manufacture of iron; regular miners in coal mines, and one collier to each furnace and forge for making blooms and pig and bar iron, but said exemption shall not apply to laborers, messengers, and wagoners, except at works employed exclusively for the State or Confederate governments: *Provided*, The person interested in the exemption from military duty of said superintendents, mechanics, miners, and colliers shall make affidavit, in writing, that said persons are skilled in said labor and are indispensable to such works; and that, after diligent effort, they have been unable [to] procure superintendents, mechanics, miners, and colliers who have been discharged from the Provisional Army, or who are not subject to military duty.

"XVII. Such other persons as the President shall be satisfied ought to be exempted on account of justice, equity, or necessity.

"Sec. 2. That all exemptions granted by law shall only continue whilst the person is holding the office or engaged in the pursuit or occupation by reason of which the exemption was granted; and nothing in this act or any other in relation to exemptions shall be construed so as to exempt agents, clerks, or other persons employed by officers in the quartermaster, commissary, or other departments of the Government, unless such agents or clerks are allowed by law, and their fees or salary paid by law; nor shall anything herein contained be construed so as to authorize the discharge of anyone now in the military service of the Confederate Government.

"Sec. 3. That all laws and parts of laws providing for exemptions from military service are hereby repealed; and no person exempted under previously existing laws shall continue to be exempted unless embraced within the provisions and on the terms and conditions of this act. The provisions of this act shall apply to all persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years not in the military service. But this act shall not repeal an act passed at the present session of Congress entitled "An act to exempt contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States and the drivers of post coaches and hacks from military service."

Strike out the title and insert

"A bill to exempt certain persons from military duty and to repeal the act heretofore passed by Congress on the same subject."

The amendment of the committee was then read as follows, viz:

Strike out all after the word "That," in the second line, and insert

"so much of the act approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, as exempts from military service 'one person, either as agent, owner, or overseer, on each plantation on which one white person is required to be kept by the laws or ordinances of any State, and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military service, and in States having no such law one person as agent, owner, or overseer on each plantation of twenty negroes and on which there is no white male adult not liable to military service;' and also the following clause in said act, to wit: 'And furthermore, for additional police for every twenty negroes on two or more plantations within five miles of each other, and each having less than twenty negroes, and on which there is no male adult not liable to military duty, one person, being the oldest of the owners or overseers on such plantations,' be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

"Sec. 2. For the police and management of slaves, there shall be exempted one person on each farm or plantation, the sole property of a minor, a person of unsound mind, a feme sole, or a person absent from home in the military or naval service

So the amendments of the Senate, as amended, were adopted.

Mr. Boyce, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the salaries of females employed in the Treasury Department," reported the same back and recommended that it do pass with an amendment.

The question on postponing and placing the bill on the Calendar was decided in the negative.

The bill was then taken up, and having been read as follows, to wit:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That hereafter the compensation of females employed in the Treasury Department shall be five dollars per diem,

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of the committee, which is as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert

"That hereafter the compensation of females employed in the Treasury Department shall be at the rate of one hundred dollars per month,"

The same was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and the question being on its passage,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	38
Nays	22

Yeas: Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hodge, Holt, Lewis, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McKee, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bridgers, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Freeman, Goode, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Machen, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the rank, pay, and allowances of adjutants of regiments and independent battalions," reported the same back, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing and placing the bill on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Chambers called the question on the third reading of the bill; which was sustained.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

The House then,

Upon motion of Mr. Curry,

Adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,
The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President;
which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *April 23, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration in secret session a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, submitting an estimate of the amount required to meet the charges upon exchange for the sum recently appropriated for the use of the Navy Department abroad.

I recommend an additional appropriation of the amount for the purpose specified, or such provision as will secure to the Department the use of the appropriation in funds current at the place where required.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying document were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate disagree to the amendment of this House to the joint resolution (S. 2) of the Senate relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message, ask a conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Semmes, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, and Mr. Peyton managers at the same on the part of the Senate.

Mr. Russell moved that the House insist on its amendment and agree to the proposition of the Senate for a committee of conference.

The Speaker appointed Mr. Russell, Mr. Garland, and Mr. Smith of North Carolina as managers on the part of the House.

Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad,'" with the recommendation that it pass with the following amendment:

And ten millions of dollars are hereby appropriated for the premium of exchange on the same.

The rules were suspended.

And the question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The question then recurred on the amendment of the committee, and the amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Kenner, from the same committee, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," with the recommendation that it pass with the following amendments, viz:

Strike out all after the word "date," in the sixteenth line, and insert "and bearing interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, to be paid at the pleasure of the Government, in specie, or in cotton of the quality of New Orleans middling, to be valued at six pence sterling per pound, the said cotton to be delivered at the pleasure of the Secretary of the Treasury, at either of the ports of New Orleans, Savannah, Charleston, Mobile, Wilmington, Richmond, or Norfolk, under such regulations as the said Secretary may establish. These bonds shall be sold by the Secretary of the Treasury, for all outstanding Confederate States Treasury notes, at not less than their par value in Treasury notes: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be authorized to apply the proceeds of as many of the said bonds as

may be required for the purchase of agricultural products, under the act of Congress approved twenty-first April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, entitled 'An act to authorize the exchange of bonds for articles in kind, and the shipment, sale, or hypothecation of such articles.'"

The question being upon postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The question then recurred upon the amendments of the committee, and the amendments were agreed to.

The bill as amended was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to reconsider the Senate bill first reported by Mr. Kenner, from the Committee on Ways and Means.

The motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Kenner, from the same committee, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to appropriate ten millions of dollars to pay for the construction, armament, and equipment of ten ironclad war ships in southern Europe," with the recommendation that it pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was laid upon the table.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the President to contract for the construction and equipment of vessels for the Navy abroad," with the recommendation that it pass with the following amendments:

Strike out all after the word "to," in fourth line, and insert "contract for the construction and equipment, abroad, of any number of war vessels, not exceeding twenty, which he may deem necessary, provided that the total cost shall not exceed twenty million dollars, and that all contracts which may be made shall be communicated to Congress as soon as practicable.

"Sec. 2. That the sum of ten millions of dollars, equivalent to two millions of pounds sterling, is hereby appropriated toward the execution of this act."

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion, the rules were suspended.

And the question being on the amendments of the committee,

They were agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment by inserting after the word "dollars" the words "in sterling currency."

The motion was agreed to.

The question then recurred upon the amendment of the committee, as amended; which was agreed to.

The bill as amended was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Lyon, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the issue of bonds to the Bank of Louisiana," with amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The question then recurred upon the amendment of the committee; which is as follows, viz:

Provided further, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized, from the adjusted balance due to the Bank of Louisiana as aforesaid, to deduct

the amount of specie drafts drawn against the coin mentioned in this act prior to the seizure thereof, and accepted by said bank or its authorized agent, and held by loyal citizens of the Confederate States, and to pay the amount so deducted to the holders of said drafts, in bonds of the Confederate States, with condition to pay the market value of said amount as coin, in Treasury notes, or to return the same in kind within six months after the termination of the present war, with interest thereon in the meantime at the rate of six per cent per annum, and to deduct the amount so paid from the balance due said Bank of Louisiana.

Mr. Machen offered the following amendment to the amendment of the committee:

Provided further, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized, from the adjusted balance due to the Bank of Louisiana as aforesaid, to deduct the amount of specie drafts drawn against the coin mentioned in this act prior to the fifteenth day of October last, and accepted by said bank or its authorized agent, and held by loyal citizens of the Confederate States, and to pay the amount so deducted to the holders of said drafts, in Treasury notes of the Confederate States, on such terms as may be agreed on between the holders and Secretary of the Treasury, or, if preferred by said draft holders, in bonds of the Confederate States of like character and with the same stipulations as those authorized by this act to be issued to the Bank of Louisiana, except that they shall be delivered to the parties entitled thereto.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to postpone the consideration of the subject to the first Monday of the next session.

Mr. Boyce demanded the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

Mr. Machen demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered. The motion to postpone was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Vest, a bill was taken up, to be entitled "An act to provide for placing in the military service of the Confederate States citizens of the State of Maryland and foreigners residing or sojourning within the limits of the Confederate States."

Mr. Vest moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Perkins as follows, viz:

Provided, That the President may, after the first day of July, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-three, exempt from the operation of this act any of the persons hereinbefore described.

Mr. Wright of Texas called the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Vest, the amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to its engrossment, and demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 32
 { Nays----- 33

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Harris, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Marshall, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Preston, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Batson, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambers, Clopton, Conrow, Ewing, Farrow, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holt, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McLean, McRae, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Vest, Vileré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider was decided in the negative.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the question: which was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	39
{ Nays	24

Yeas: Ashe, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Chilton, Clopton, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Harris, Hart-ridge, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Marshall, Martin, McRae, Miller, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Vest moved to amend the title of the bill, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to take up, from the unfinished business of the last secret session, a bill to be entitled "An act to aid the several Departments in the investigation of accounts."

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Chambers,

Mr. Chilton moved to lay the amendment on the table, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the fourth section of the original bill by inserting after the word "shall" the words "to the several heads of Departments, by whom the subject-matter was referred for investigation."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the question: which was on the engrossment of the bill as amended, and the question was ordered.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	37
{ Nays	27 [28]

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Garnett, Hilton, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Batson, Bridgers, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McLean, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was ordered to its engrossment.

The bill was then read a third time, and the question being on its passage,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays: which were not ordered.

The bill was then passed.

On motion of Mr. Heiskell, the resolutions of Mr. Foote, from the Committee on Frauds in Transportation, were taken up.

And on motion of Mr. Garnett,
The House went into open session.

EIGHTY-SEVENTH DAY—TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday.

The question being on the passage of the bill reported by Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to be entitled "An act to increase the rank and pay of adjutants of regiments and independent battalions."

The vote was taken by yeas and nays;

Which are recorded as follows, viz: {	Yeas -----	32
	Nays -----	25

Yeas: Ashe, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, De Jarnette, Freeman, Garnett, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Martin, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Simpson, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Chilton, Conrow, Curry, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Gray, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Mences, Preston, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Trippe moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Curry moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: {

Years -----	33
Nays -----	29

Yeas: Arrington, Batson, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Gray, Herbert, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McLean, McQueen, Preston, Royston, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Crockett, Freeman, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Lewis, Martin, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

So the bill was laid on the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendment of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 90. An act relative to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved May 16, 1861.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a joint resolution of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 13. Joint resolution to establish a seal for the Confederate States;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Harris, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act for the establishment and organization of the Army of the Confederate States," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it pass.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar,

Mr. Atkins moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas. 35
 } Nays 25

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Batson, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clopton, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Jones, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Pugh, Royston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Crockett, Freeman, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Russell, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the bill was laid upon the table.

Mr. Russell, by unanimous consent, presented a communication from the Attorney-General, recommending an increase in the compensation of the law clerk in his Department.

The communication was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Wright of Georgia moved that the bill to provide for the public printing be made the special order for to-morrow.

The motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Conrad, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill entitled

S. 107. An act to provide for the transfer of persons serving in the Army to the Navy,

reported the same back, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar, the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 104. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to appoint

clerks to the commandant and quartermaster of the Marine Corps,

reported the same back, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Clapp moved to reconsider the vote by which Senate bill to be

entitled

S. 107. An act to provide for the transfer of persons serving in the

Army to the Navy

was passed.

The motion prevailed.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all persons serving in the land forces of the Confederate States, who shall desire to be transferred to the naval service, and whose transfer as seaman or ordinary seaman shall be applied for by the Secretary of the Navy, shall be transferred from the land to the naval service,

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the bill as follows:

Provided, That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to alter or repeal any law now in force limiting the number of seamen.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which was referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 87. An act to regulate the supplies of clothing to enlisted men of the Navy during the war, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 96. An act to increase the pay of masters' mates in the Navy, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 91. An act to increase the allowance for mileage to officers of the Navy and agents traveling under orders, reported the same back and moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration and that the same do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 50. An act to increase the pay of acting midshipmen in the Navy, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, it was taken up for consideration, and having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That hereafter the pay of acting midshipmen in the Navy of the Confederate States shall be eight hundred dollars per annum when at sea, and seven hundred when on other duty, payable monthly, commencing the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,

Mr. Holt moved to amend as follows: Strike out the words "commencing the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was read a third time.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered the following amendment, viz:

Provided, That the increase of pay allowed by this act shall cease at the expiration of the present war.

Mr. Welsh moved to lay the bill and amendment on the table.

Mr. Hartridge demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	Y	Yeas	38
	N	Nays	28

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Bridgers, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Meners, Pugh, Royston, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Lewis, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Read, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill and amendment were laid on the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 81. An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 61. An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the amendments of the Senate to the bill entitled

H. R. 26. An act for the assessment and collection of taxes.

And they have disagreed to the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate of the following title, viz:

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 108. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate impressments," approved March 26, 1863, reported the same back, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill upon the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 128. An act to authorize the appointment of a chief constructor in the Navy, and to fix the pay, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill upon the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 59. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to make certain contracts without advertising for proposals," approved August 29, 1861,

reported back the same and moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration and that it do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported the following bills as correctly enrolled:

H. R. 40. A bill to be entitled "An act to prescribe the rates of postage on newspapers, periodicals, books, and transient and other matter, and to repeal in part the second section of the act approved May thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, to amend an act to prescribe the rates of postage in the Confederate States of America, and for other purposes, approved February twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;"

H. R. 48. A bill to be entitled "An act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers;"

H. R. 58. A bill to be entitled "An act to admit free of duty all machinery for the manufacture of cotton or wool, or necessary for carrying on any of the mechanic arts;" and

H. R. 60. A bill to be entitled "An act to declare the meaning and extend the provisions of an act entitled 'An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments,' approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Conrad, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 131. An act to increase the pay of third assistant engineers in the Navy,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it pass.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, it was taken up for consideration, and having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the compensation of third assistant engineers in the Navy of the Confederate States shall be eight hundred and fifty dollars per annum, while on duty, and seven hundred and fifty dollars when not on duty, commencing January first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three,

Mr. Machen moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: Strike out the words "commencing January first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend as follows, viz:

Provided, This act shall be in force only during the continuance of the pending war.

The amendment was agreed to.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

And the question being taken, the bill was lost.

Mr. Conrad, from the same committee, to which had been referred Senate bill (No. 4) to be entitled "An act to regulate the action of the Secretary of the Navy upon the decisions of naval general courts martial," reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration and that it do lie upon the table.

Mr. Royston called the question; which was ordered, and the report of the committee was agreed to.

Mr. Hodge, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to create a provisional navy of the Confederate States;"

which was read a first and second time.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Hodge, from the same committee, to whom was referred a bill of this House (No. 15) to be entitled "An act for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, and for other purposes," which had been amended by the Senate, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the House do not concur in the amendments of the Senate.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, the amendments of the Senate were taken up for consideration and are as follows, viz:

A bill to be entitled "An act for the establishment and equalization of the grade of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, and for other purposes."

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That from and after the passage of this act the Navy of the Confederate States shall consist of the following commissioned and warrant officers, to wit: Four admirals, three vice-admirals, three rear-admirals, eight commodores, fifteen captains, thirty-one commanders, thirty-one lieutenant-commanders, one hundred first lieutenants, twenty-five second lieutenants, thirty masters in line of promotion, as many ensigns as may be necessary from time to time to absorb the class of passed midshipmen, one hundred and forty-eight midshipmen, twenty paymasters, twenty assistant paymasters, one surgeon in chief and ten fleet surgeons, fifteen surgeons, fifteen passed assistant surgeons, and hereafter as many as may be necessary to absorb the passing assistants, twenty-five assistant surgeons, one engineer in chief, ten chief engineers, twenty-five first assistant engineers, thirty second assistant engineers, thirty third assistant engineers, two constructors, five assistant constructors, thirty gunners, thirty boatswains, thirty carpenters, and ten sailmakers.

SEC. 2. The vessels of the Confederate States Navy shall be divided into four classes, to be commanded as follows: First rate, having not less than four hundred officers, seamen, and marines, by commodores; second rate, having not less than two hundred and fifty and not more than four hundred officers, seamen, and marines, by captains; third rate, having not less than one hundred and twenty-five and not more than two hundred and fifty officers, seamen, and marines, by commanders; fourth rate, having one hundred and twenty-five or less officers, seamen, and marines, by lieutenant-commanders. Lieutenant-commanders may be assigned as executive officers of naval stations or of vessels commanded by commodores.

SEC. 3. Two admirals, one vice-admiral, one rear-admiral, four commodores, five captains, ten commanders, ten lieutenant-commanders, and fifteen lieutenants shall be appointed solely for highly distinguished conduct or extraordinary heroism in the line of their profession and in conflict with the enemy. During the war these appointments in all grades above that of lieutenant-commanders shall be made from the grade immediately below the grade to be filled and without reference to the rank of the officer in such grade, and the service for which the appointment shall be conferred shall be specified in the commission. During time of peace vacancies in these grades shall be filled by regular promotion from the next below.

SEC. 4. The relative and assimilated rank between officers of the Army and Navy shall be as follows:

Admirals,	Generals.
Vice-admirals,	Lieutenant-generals.
Rear-admirals,	Major-generals.
Commodores,	Brigadier-generals.
Captains,	Colonels.
Commanders,	Lieutenant-colonels.
Lieutenant-commanders,	Majors.
Lieutenants,	Captains.
Masters and second lieutenants,	First lieutenants.
Ensigns,	Second lieutenants.
Midshipmen,	Cadets.

SEC. 5. The annual pay of the several new grades of the officers of the Navy established by this law shall be as follows: Vice and rear admirals, the same as now allowed by law to flag officers; commodores, that now allowed by law to captains; ensigns, the same as now allowed by law to passed midshipmen; assistant constructors, one thousand five hundred dollars per annum. Officers in all other grades and ranks will receive the same pay as now allowed by law.

SEC. 6. The relative and assimilated rank of officers who resigned from the United States Navy to take service in the Confederate States Navy will be determined by reference to the date of commission or warrant held by them in the United States Navy. But seniority of commission in all new grades created shall determine rank.

SEC. 7. All officers at sea or attached to seagoing vessels, or receiving ships, or doing duty in camp ashore, shall be allowed one ration per diem.

SEC. 8. Midshipmen, after their final examination and graduation, if successful, shall be commissioned ensigns, taking rank according to merit.

SEC. 9. After forty-five years in the services of the United States and Confederate States combined, and faithful performance, an officer shall be permitted to retire upon leave-of-absence pay, and the President may, in his discretion, retire any officer coming within this description upon one-half the leave-of-absence pay of the grade to which he belongs.

SEC. 10. For distinguished services in battle the President may cause suitable medals to be prepared and presented to such officers, seamen, and marines as have or may hereafter merit them, to be worn on suitable occasions, as an incentive to others to win the gratitude of the nation.

SEC. 11. There shall be a sufficient number of midshipmen appointed to make up, with those already appointed, the number of one hundred and forty-eight; and the appointments to be made shall be in the States and Congressional districts which may now have none, upon the recommendation of the member of Congress from such district; and hereafter when vacancies occur, if from a district, they shall be filled upon the recommendation of the member of Congress from that district; if from the State at large (each State, under the law contemplated by this bill, being entitled to two appointments at large), upon nomination of the Senators thereof. Ten appointments shall be from the Confederacy at large, and shall be appointed by the President, in his discretion, and vacancies in them filled, in his discretion.

SEC. 12. Before any officer shall be promoted to the grade of captain his fitness in all respects for such grade, and his ability to perform all its duties, shall be inquired of by five members of such grade, whose report thereon shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Navy, and he is empowered to convene such board.

SEC. 13. The two constructors provided for in this act shall be commissioned officers, and the five assistant constructors shall be warrant officers.

SEC. 14. All laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act shall be, and are hereby, repealed: *Provided*, That an act entitled "An act authorizing the appointment of additional officers of the Navy," approved December twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, is not to be affected by anything herein contained, nor any laws now in existence by which acting masters in the Navy are appointed.

SEC. 15. The service performed in the United States Navy by medical officers who have resigned therefrom, and are now commissioned in the Confederate States Navy, shall be considered as having been performed under their present commissions.

SEC. 16. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The amendments of the Senate from 1 to 15, inclusive, were disagreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina demanded the yeas and nays on the sixteenth amendment of the Senate:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows: { Yeas 23
Nays 40

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Conrow, Farrow, Freeman, Garland, Goode, Harris, Jones, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, Perkins, Royston, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Gaither, Garnett, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was not concurred in.

The seventeenth amendment was disagreed to.

The eighteenth and nineteenth amendments were concurred in.

The amendments from 20 to 24, inclusive, were not concurred in.

The twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth amendments were concurred in.

The twenty-seventh amendment was not concurred in.

The twenty-eighth amendment was concurred in.

The Speaker laid before the House a bill of the House to be entitled H. R. 61. An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned;

which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

On motion of Mr. Kenner, the rule requiring the bill and amendments to be referred to a committee and considered in Committee of the Whole was suspended.

The bill was taken up for consideration, and amendments read as follows, viz:

The question being on agreeing to the first amendment of the Senate, which is as follows, viz:

Strike out, on page 2, lines 27, 28, and 29, the words "and for such increase of the pay of the privates in the Army as may be ordered by law, one hundred and sixty millions of dollars," and insert "one hundred and forty-one millions one hundred and eighteen thousand six hundred and eighty-eight dollars,"

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 18
 } Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Boyce, Conrad, Conrow, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Harris, Heiskell, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Marshall, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Royston, Simpson, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Currin, De Jarnette, Gaither, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, McLean, McRae, Miller, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was not agreed to.

The House concurred in the other amendments of the Senate; which are as follows, viz:

Add the following additional appropriations:

(2) "For salaries of officers, printing, stationery, and contingent expenses to be incurred in collecting taxes, four million dollars."

(3) "Amount required to refund the State of Louisiana the amount overpaid by her on the war-tax act of August nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, five thousand eight hundred and twenty-five dollars and sixty-one cents."

(4) "Advertising and other expenses incident to the funding of Treasury notes, fifty thousand dollars."

(5) "Amount required to build fireproof vaults, and to fit up the city post-office rooms for the use of the Treasury, five thousand dollars."

(6) "Amount required for alterations, rent, damages, lights, etc., for a building for a post-office for the city of Richmond, fourteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-six cents."

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following Senate bills:

S. 62. A bill to be entitled "An act to pay officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates not legally mustered into the service of the Confederate States for services actually performed;"

S. 74. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An

act for the establishment and organization of a general staff for the Army of the Confederate States of America,' approved February twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one;" and

S. 81. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment."

And the said bills were signed by the Speaker.

The Speaker laid before the House a bill of the House to be entitled

H. R. 30. An act to punish forgery and counterfeiting; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The rule requiring the bill and amendments to be referred to a committee and considered in Committee of the Whole having been suspended, the same were taken up for consideration, and the amendments having been read as follows, viz:

(1) Strike out, in section 3, line 3, the words "of, or" and insert "bonds, coupon or other."

(2) Strike out, in section 6, line 2, the word "or," where it last occurs, and insert "bond, coupon or other."

(3) Strike out, in section 11, line 1, the word "and" and insert "bond, coupon and other,"

were agreed to.

The Speaker also laid before the House a bill to be entitled

H. R. 34. An act concerning fees of district attorneys; which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

Under a suspension of the rules the bill and amendment were taken up for consideration, and the amendment having been read as follows, viz:

Provided, Each district attorney shall make returns of the fees received by him and shall pay the excess over five thousand dollars into the Treasury,

The same was agreed to.

The Speaker also laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate;

which had been amended by the House and returned from the Senate, that body having refused to concur in the amendments of the House.

Mr. Garnett moved that the House insist on its amendments.

Mr. Holt moved to adjourn.

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	21
Nays	32

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Graham, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Miles, Miller, Moore, Russell, Simpson, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Garland, Garnett, Gray, Heiskell, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Perkins, Royston, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the House refused to adjourn.

Mr. Hilton called the question on Mr. Garnett's motion; which was ordered.

The motion of Mr. Garnett was then agreed to.

So the House insisted on its amendment.

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 19. An act to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department;

which had been amended by the House, the Senate having refused to concur in the House amendment.

Mr. Chilton moved that the House recede.

Mr. Jones moved that the House insist on its amendment; which was agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 134. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods,' approved May sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," approved May 21, 1861, and numbered 170 of the acts of the second session of the Provisional Congress of 1861; which was read first and second times.

Mr. McRae moved to suspend the rules requiring said bill to be referred to a committee.

Mr. Jones moved a call of the House, and demanded the yeas and nays on said motion;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 18
 } Nays ------ 38

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Chambers, Chilton, Garland, Hanly, Harris, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McQueen, Mencees, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Currin, Curry, Freeman, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McRae, Moore, Munnerlyn, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

The Speaker signed

A bill to be entitled "An act relative to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved May sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one."

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. McRae to suspend the rules,

It was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Smith moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

The motion was lost.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The Speaker laid before the House a joint resolution of the House to establish a seal for the Confederate States: which had been amended by the Senate as follows, viz:

(1) Strike out the word "South" and insert "Confederacy."

(2) Strike out the words "seal of," in line 9.

(3) Strike out, in line 11, the words "*duce vincemus*" and insert "*vindice*."

The question being on suspending the rules requiring the joint resolution as amended by the Senate to be referred to a committee,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The rules were suspended.

The first and second amendments of the Senate were then agreed to.

Mr. Boyce moved to amend the third amendment of the Senate by striking out the words "*Deo vindice*" and inserting the words "Glory to God in the Highest, on earth peace, and good will toward men."

Mr. Boteler moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Boyce by striking out the words "*Deo vindice*" and inserting "*Deo favente, animo fervente*," which was disagreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Boyce by substituting the words "Liberty and Independence."

Mr. Chilton demanded the previous question; which was not ordered.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Atkins moved to adjourn.

The motion was disagreed to.

The amendment of Mr. Jones was then disagreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Boyce by substituting the words "*Deo vindice fide fortes*."

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Freeman moved to adjourn; which was disagreed to.

Mr. Singleton moved that there be a call of the House; which was ordered.

The roll was called, and the following gentlemen answered to their names:

Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Farrow, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Curry moved that all further proceedings under the call of the House be dispensed with; which was agreed to.

Mr. Harris moved that the House adjourn; which was not agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Garnett, it was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Heiskell moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Garnett on the table; which was agreed to.

The question recurring on agreeing to the Senate amendment,

Mr. Boteler called the question; which was ordered.

The amendment of the Senate was concurred in.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize a detail of men for service in the Engineer Department," reported back the same without amendment, with a recommendation that it pass.

On motion of Mr. Harris,

The House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

EIGHTY-EIGHTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Read.

Mr. Chilton moved to suspend the rules to enable him to report a joint resolution from the Committee on Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, and upon his motion demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 60
Nays ----- 0

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: None.

So the rules were suspended.

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, to which had been referred a joint resolution of the House to be entitled

H. R. 10. Joint resolution to provide for the payment of certain accounts of the acting quartermaster and other officers of the Indian troops;

which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the House concur in the amendments of the Senate.

The House having refused to postpone the joint resolution and place it upon the Calendar, it was taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That the Secretary of the Treasury audit and pay the accounts of the acting quartermaster and other officers of the Indian troops for camp utensils, horse equipments, clothing, ordnance and ordnance stores furnished by Jones & Thebo and R. M. Jones, for the use of said troops: Provided, That said accounts have been examined and approved by Brigadier-General Albert Pike.

The question being on agreeing to the amendments of the Senate, which are as follows, viz:

Strike out, in line 2, the words "Secretary of the Treasury" and insert "Quartermaster-General."

Insert, in line 7, after the word "troops," the words "upon the bills of particulars herewith filed, amounting to eleven thousand two hundred and sixteen dollars and seventy-five cents.

The same was agreed to.

Mr. Swan, under a suspension of the rules, reported, from the special committee appointed to take into consideration the election of Representatives to Congress in certain States

A bill to be entitled "An act for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee."

The bill was read a first and second time.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar,

The question recurred on ordering the bill to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and it was decided in the affirmative.

And the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Conrad moved to suspend the rules to enable him to introduce a bill.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the election of members of Congress in certain districts in the State of Louisiana."

The bill was read a first and second time.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina asked leave of absence for Mr. McDowell; which was granted.

Mr. Chilton moved to suspend the rules to enable him to report a bill from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to establish certain post routes therein named,"

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar,

Mr. Hartridge moved to amend the bill as follows:

From Bengal, in Bullock County, Georgia, via William DeLoach's mills, in Bullock County, thence to Benjamin Brewton's mills, in Tatnall County, and thence to Reidsville, in said county of Tatnall.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Ashe moved to amend the bill as follows, viz:

From Old Hundred Depot, on the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad, in Richmond County, by Rockingham, Wadesboro, Lanesboro, and Monroe, to Charlotte, and from Why Not Post-Office, in Randolph County, to Troy, in Randolph [Montgomery] County.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Martin moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: After the word "Bayport," insert "and from Waldo to Micanopy, in the county of Alachua."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have rejected the bill of this House entitled

H. R. 16. An act in relation to the transfer of troops, and to repeal an act entitled "An act in relation to the transfer of troops," approved September 23, 1862.

The Senate have passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 14. Joint resolution relative to the treatment of prisoners of war by the enemy; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 27th instant, approve and sign the following acts:

S. 76. An act to regulate the extra pay allowed soldiers detailed for duty as clerks in the city of Richmond;

S. 94. An act to establish the form of fifty-cent Treasury notes;

S. 110. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to lease a site, near the city of Richmond, for the preparation and safe-keeping of ordnance stores;

S. 111. An act to authorize the issue of eight per cent bonds or certificates of stock in certain cases; and

S. 129. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to regulate impressments by officers of the Army."

Mr. Wilcox moved to suspend the rules, for the purpose of allowing the chairman of the Committee of the Judiciary to report back a bill.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred a House bill to be entitled "An act to change the place of holding the district court for the western district of Texas," reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, it was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to concur in the Senate amendment to the House bill to be entitled

H. R. 61. An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned.

Mr. Wright of Georgia moved to take up a Senate bill entitled

S. 13. An act in relation to the public printing.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by striking out, after the word "that," in section 1, line 2, all down to and including "composition," in the seventeenth line.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays on his motion;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 18
 } Nays ----- 40

Yeas: Atkins, Chilton, Conrad, De Jarnette, Ewing, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holt, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Swan, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Farrow, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, McLean, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Georgia moved to amend the bill as follows: In section 5, line 6, after the word "work," insert the words "and for bills and resolutions on which final action is yet to be taken."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Georgia also moved to amend by striking out all after the word "margin," in the thirteenth line, same section, down to and including the word "taken," in the sixteenth line.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the bill by striking out the fifteenth section.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend by adding the following proviso:

Provided, That nothing contained in this act shall be so construed as to take from the Speaker of the House the right to revise and correct the said Journal before it is filed with the Attorney-General: *And provided further*, That he is authorized to employ such additional clerks for making the transcripts as he may deem necessary, to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then read a third time, and the question being on its passage,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 43
 { Nays ----- 11

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Garnett, Gray, Herbert, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Marshall, McQueen, Mences, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Bridgers, Conrow, Hilton, Jones, Machen, Moore, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have directed me to return to this House, in accordance with its request, the bill of the House (H. R. 61) entitled "An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned."

The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 59. An act to continue and amend the third section of an act supplementary to an act concerning the pay and allowance due to deceased soldiers, approved February 15, 1862, and to provide for the prompt settlement of claims for arrearages of pay, allowance, and bounty due deceased officers and soldiers.

Mr. Hanly moved that an additional member be appointed on the Committee on Accounts.

The motion was agreed to.

On motion, the Speaker appointed Mr. Machen.

Mr. Curry moved to suspend the rules, to allow him to report back a bill from the Committee on Commerce.

The rules were suspended.

Mr. Curry, from the Committee on Commerce, to which had been referred a bill to be entitled

S. 68. An act to abolish all ports of delivery in the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar, it was read a third time, and the question being on its passage,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Jones moved a call of the House, and on his motion demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 33
 } Nays 22

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Conrad, Ewing, Hartridge, Herbert, Holcombe, Jones, Kenner, Lyons, McQueen, Mence, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Boyce, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Farrow, Gaither, Graham, Gray, Hilton, Holt, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Martin, Miller, Moore, Russell, Sexton, and Smith of North Carolina.

So the motion for the call of the House was agreed to.

It appearing from the vote last taken that a quorum was present,

Mr. Jones, by unanimous consent, withdrew his motion for a call.

Mr. Herbert, from the special committee to examine into the affairs of Castle Thunder, moved that the rules be suspended to allow the testimony taken before the committee to be reported.

The rules were suspended.

Mr. Herbert then presented the said testimony; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Moore, under a suspension of the rules, reported back from the Committee on the Judiciary a House bill to be entitled

H. R. 39. An act to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in certain Indian nations;

which had been amended by the Senate, and recommended that the amendments be concurred in.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it on the Calendar, it was taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in the several Indian nations entitled by treaty to Delegates in the Congress of the Confederate States, the regulations for holding elections for such Delegates shall be as follows:

Such elections shall be held in all such Indian nations on the first Monday in September, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and in each second year thereafter.

SEC. 2. Such elections shall be conducted according to the mode prescribed by the laws of the several nations, except so far as such laws may be modified by this act.

SEC. 3. In such elections every citizen of the nation entitled to a Delegate, who has not forfeited his citizenship by deserting to the public enemy, or seeking protection from the Government of the United States, who shall be qualified to vote for a member of the legislative body of such nation shall be entitled to vote for such Delegate, at any place in such nation, where he would be entitled to vote for governor or principal chief.

SEC. 4. In case such citizen shall be in the military service of the Confederate States, or in case the elections can not be held at the usual places of holding elections, such citizens shall be allowed to vote in the camps of the Army as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 5. In every nation in which elections are to be held, polls shall be opened by the officers, authorities, or persons authorized to hold other elections at the same places where such other elections are or may be held, from which the vote of any citizen entitled to vote under this act shall be offered, and the returning officer shall make the usual returns to the governor or principal chief of the nation within three days after such election.

SEC. 6. In every regiment or battalion in the military service of the Confederate States, the colonel or other officer in command of the same, or the officer in command of any less body of troops on detached service, shall appoint two judges and three clerks, to open and hold such elections, who shall hold the same and make out the poll books and returns in the same manner as is usual in holding other elections in the nation from which such regiment or command came.

SEC. 7. The returns of such elections in camps shall be forwarded by the several commanding officers appointing the judges and clerks as aforesaid to the governor or principal chief of the nation for which such election is so held.

SEC. 8. The governor or principal chief of the nation for which such election is held shall examine the returns forwarded to him, and give to such person, as he shall have ascertained to have received the highest number of votes, a certificate of such fact.

SEC. 9. The officers authorized to appoint the judges and clerks shall be authorized to administer the proper oaths to the judges and clerks, or they may administer the same to each other.

SEC. 10. Every person concerned in holding such elections in any nation or camp shall take an oath to support the Constitution of the Confederate States and to discharge his duty in holding such election faithfully and impartially.

The question recurred upon agreeing to the amendments of the Senate; which are as follows, viz:

(1) In section 1, line 7, after the word "and," insert the words "on the first Monday of September."

(2) Strike out fifth section and insert
"In every nation in which elections are authorized by this act, polls shall be opened at the usual time and places of holding elections, and the returning officers shall make the usual returns to the governor or principal chief of the nation within ten days after such elections."

(3) Add at the end of section 6 the words "and the returns of said election shall be made within ten days."

The amendments were agreed to.

The House then resumed the consideration of Mr. Chilton's motion to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to concur in the Senate amendment to the House bill (H. R. 61) to be entitled "An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned."

Mr. Singleton called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 35
 { Nays----- 32

Yeas: Bell, Boyce, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Simpson, Singleton, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Bridges, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Collier, De Jarnette, Gaither, Garnett, Graham, Hodge, Holcombe, Lyons, Martin, Menees, Miller, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring upon agreeing to the Senate amendment,

Mr. Garland called the question; which was ordered.

The amendment was concurred in.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 49. An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals; In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Russell, under a suspension of the rules, reported back from the Committee on the Judiciary a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 56. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the power of said courts," approved October 9, 1862.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 88. An act in relation to the custody of persons charged with offenses against the Confederate States.

The House refusing to postpone, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Russell, from the same committee, reported back, with amendments, joint resolutions of the House expressing the opinion of Congress in relation to the conduct of certain citizens of Louisiana within the lines and in the presence of the enemy.

The House having refused to postpone, the same were taken up for consideration and read as follows, to wit:

Resolved, That while Congress views with pride the course pursued by the true men and women of the Confederacy, who, falling within the lines of the enemy, have resisted all appeals to their pecuniary interests, and refused, in spite of pains and penalties, either to perjure themselves or to forswear their own Government by taking an oath of allegiance to support that of the United States, it regards with peculiar satisfaction the conduct of those citizens of Louisiana, who, by refusing the oath and openly registering themselves enemies of the United States in the immediate presence and in defiance of General Butler's military authorities, have borne most honorable testimony by their martyr-like courage to the patriotic spirit and Christian faith of our people.

Resolved, That while such conduct has secured them the present respect and sympathy of all good people, it will be esteemed, in the future, a most honorable claim upon the gratitude of their country, and the highest evidence of their devotion to truth and principle.

The question being on agreeing to the amendments of the committee, which are as follows, viz:

Joint resolutions of Congress in commendation of the conduct of those citizens of Louisiana and other States, who, on falling within the lines of the enemy, have refused to take the oath of allegiance to the United States.

Resolved, That Congress views with pride the course pursued by the true men and women of the Confederacy, who, falling within the lines of the enemy, have resisted all appeals to their pecuniary interests, and refused, in spite of pains and penalties, to forswear their own Government by taking the oath of allegiance to support that of the United States, and regards with peculiar satisfaction the conduct of those citizens of Louisiana, who, by refusing the oath and openly registering themselves enemies to the United States in the immediate presence and in defiance of General Butler's military authorities, have borne most noble testimony by their martyr-like courage to the patriotic spirit and Christian faith of our people.

Resolved, That while such conduct has secured them the present respect and sympathy of all good people, it will be esteemed, in the future, a most honorable claim upon the gratitude of their country, and the highest evidence of their devotion to truth and principle,

Mr. Villeré moved to lay the joint resolutions and amendments on the table.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendments of the committee as follows, viz:

That Congress has beheld with sorrow and indignation the wanton cruelties practiced by our vindictive enemies upon the inhabitants of those portions of our country which have fallen under their control.

That while deeply sympathizing with the sufferings of those devoted patriots, Congress can only assure them of their undiminished confidence in the ultimate triumph of our cause, and that the firmness and fortitude which they have exhibited deserve and receive the gratitude of their country and the admiration of the civilized world.

The amendment was agreed to.

The resolutions as amended were then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the title as follows, viz:

Joint resolutions expressing the sympathy of Congress for the inhabitants of those portions of the Confederacy that are occupied by the enemy.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Speaker presented a bill of the House to be entitled

H. R. 49. An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals;

which had been amended by the Senate.

The bill was referred to the Committee on the Medical Department.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles:

An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to appoint clerks to the commandant and quartermaster of the Marine Corps;

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments,' approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;"

An act to authorize the appointment of a chief constructor in the Navy, and to fix the pay;

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods,' approved May sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," approved May 21, 1861, and numbered 170 of the acts of the second session of the Provisional Congress of 1861;

An act to regulate the supplies of clothing to enlisted men of the Navy during the war; and

An act to increase the pay of masters' mates in the Navy; which were severally signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Atkins, under a suspension of the rule, reported back from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 79. An act for the benefit of certain claimants for postal services, with a recommendation that it do pass.

The House refusing to postpone, the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 119. An act to declare Treasury notes and bonds, inclosed in boxes for transmission by the Treasury Department, mailable matter, and to regulate the rates of postage, with a recommendation that it pass.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill upon the Calendar, it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 118. An act to authorize the establishment of express mails, with a recommendation that it pass with sundry amendments.

The House having refused to postpone, the same was taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the Postmaster-General be, and he is hereby, authorized, if found practicable and necessary, to establish express mails for the conveyance of Government dispatches and letters

only, as a means of securing greater dispatch than can be afforded by the regular mails; and the lines of express mails so established shall be deemed post routes.

SEC. 2. The rates of postage on such lines, to be prepaid, shall be fifty cents on a single letter not exceeding one-half ounce in weight, and fifty cents additional for every additional half ounce or fraction of a half ounce, for any distance not exceeding five hundred miles, and double these rates for any distance exceeding five hundred miles.

The question recurred upon agreeing to the amendments of the committee; which are as follows, viz:

(1) Transpose the words "and letters," in the seventh line, putting them before the word "Government," in the same line, so as to make it read "letters and Government dispatches only," etc.

(2) Strike out the second section and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"The rates of postage on such lines shall be fixed by the Postmaster-General, but shall not exceed one dollar on a single letter not exceeding in weight one-half ounce for any distance not exceeding five hundred miles, and for any distance exceeding five hundred miles, double the said rate to be so fixed: *Provided*, This law shall not repeal the laws now in force regulating the ordinary mail service."

The amendments were agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Wright of Georgia, from the Committee on the Medical Department, to which had been referred a bill of the House to be entitled

H. R. 49. An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals;

which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The House having refused to postpone, the amendments were taken up for consideration as follows, viz:

(1) Insert, in section 4, line 5, after "charge," the words "and two assistant surgeons, if there be two, and if not, then one shall constitute a board for the purpose aforesaid, and."

(2) Add at the end of section 4 the words "*Provided*, That no furloughs shall be granted under the provisions of this act if in the opinion of the board the life or convalescence of the patient would be endangered thereby."

The amendments were agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Georgia, from the same committee, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 80. An act to increase the efficiency of the Medical Department.

The House having refused to postpone the bill and place it upon the Calendar,

Mr. Wright moved that it be postponed until to-morrow.

The motion prevailed.

The House resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday, which was a House bill to be entitled "An act authorizing the detail of men for service in the Engineer Department;" which had been reported back by Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House refused to postpone.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:^a

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 126. An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named,

with the recommendation that it do pass.

^aThe message is not recorded in the Journal of this date; but see p. 465.

The House refusing to postpone, the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 109. An act to provide for dropping officers of the Army who are absent without leave, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Miles, by unanimous consent, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for the repulse of the ironclad fleet of the enemy from the harbor of Charleston on the 7th of April, 1863.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a joint resolution and bills of the following titles, viz:

An act to punish forgery and counterfeiting;

Joint resolution to establish a seal for the Confederate States;

An act to allow commutation for clothing to the militia in actual service of the Confederate States;

An act relative to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved May 16, 1861; and

An act concerning fees of district attorneys; which were severally signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Marshall moved to reconsider the joint resolutions, amended by Mr. Conrad, expressing the opinion of Congress in relation to the conduct of certain citizens of Louisiana within the lines and in the presence of the enemy.

On motion of Mr. Sexton,

The House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

EIGHTY-NINTH DAY—THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Read.

Mr. Boteler introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, copies of Lieutenant-General T. J. Jackson's official reports of the battles and other military operations in the Valley District of Virginia during the campaign of last year, from the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

Mr. Wright demanded the yeas and nays on the passage of the resolution;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 63
Nays----- 0

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hil-

ton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: None.

So the resolution was adopted

Mr. Garnett introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House, at the next session of Congress, how many slaves taken by or employed in the Army have been reported under the provisions of the act entitled "An act to protect the rights of owners of slaves taken or employed in the Army," approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and especially under the third and sixth sections thereof.

The resolution was agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., April 29, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, in response to your resolution of the 25th instant, asking for a copy of the finding of the court of inquiry in the case of John K. Mitchell, Confederate States Navy.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs and ordered to be printed.

The Speaker laid before the House the following message from the President, viz:^a

Mr. Russell moved to postpone the consideration of the message until the first Wednesday of next session.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays: which were not ordered.

The motion to postpone was then agreed to.

Mr. Martin moved to reconsider the vote by which the Senate bill to be entitled

S. 45. An act to amend an act entitled "An act for the establishment and organization of the Army of the Confederate States of America" was laid on the table, and demanded the yeas and nays: which were not ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Swan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back

A joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Maj. J. L. Brent and the officers and soldiers under his command for their gallantry in capturing the Federal gunboat Indianola.

The House having refused to postpone the joint resolution, it was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, reported back

A joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Oscar M. Watkins and the officers and men under his command for capturing the enemy's gunboats at Sabine Pass,

with a recommendation that it lie upon the table and that the following resolution be adopted, viz:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to Major Oscar M. Watkins and the officers

^aThe message is not recorded in the Journal of this date.

and men under his command for the signal victory achieved over the naval forces of the United States at Sabine Pass on the twenty-first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, resulting in the dispersion of the blockading squadron of the enemy and the capture of two of his gunboats.

The question being on postponing and placing the resolution and amendment on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The question then recurring on the report of the committee, it was agreed to.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments proposed by this House to the bill of the Senate (S. 73) entitled "An act to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war."

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Gen. G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for the repulse of the ironclad fleet of the enemy from the harbor of Charleston on the 7th of April, 1863, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The House refusing, the joint resolution was read as follows, viz:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States, That the thanks of Congress are eminently due, and are hereby cordially tendered, to General G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command engaged in the affair, for their brilliant and signal defeat of the ironclad fleet of the enemy in the harbor of Charleston, on the seventh April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate this resolution to General Beauregard and his command.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, reported back

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent trading with the enemy, and, in connection therewith, dealing in the paper currency of the United States,"

with an amendment and the recommendation that the amendment do pass as a substitute for the original bill.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill upon the Calendar, the amendment was read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact,* That hereafter it shall not be lawful for any person to sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of, within the Confederate States and outside the lines of the enemy, the Treasury notes, bonds, or other paper currency of the Government of the United States, or any State thereof, or of any company, partnership, or corporation existing under the authority of the same.

SEC. 2. Any person violating this act shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than one thousand dollars, and imprisoned not less than six months, as the jury trying the case may determine.

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved to amend the amendment of the committee as follows: Strike out, in section 2, lines 5 and 6, the words "as the jury trying the case may determine" and insert

as the judge or jury trying the case, according to the practice in the courts of the State wherein the offense has been committed, may determine.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table.

^aThe amendment is not recorded in the Journal.

allowance due to deceased soldiers," approved February 15, 1862, and to provide for the prompt settlement of claims for arrearages of pay, allowance, and bounty due to deceased officers and soldiers.

And the same were signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back a House bill to be entitled "An act relating to the organization of the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments," with a recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to facilitate the detection of frauds in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments;" which was read first and second times.

The House having refused to postpone, it was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Hilton moved to strike out "prima facie" and insert "presumptive."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 13. An act in relation to the public printing.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills of this House entitled

H. R. 66. An act to change the place of holding the district court for the western district of Texas; and

H. R. 68. An act to provide for the election of members of Congress for certain districts of the State of Louisiana.

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 140. An act to authorize the President to appoint officers in the Niter Bureau and in the engineer troops during the recess of the Senate;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

The Speaker also laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 127. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide a staff and clerical force for any general who may be assigned by the President to duty at the seat of government," approved March 25, 1862;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Speaker also laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 120. An act to regulate the rank of officers of the Provisional Corps of Artillery on ordnance duty;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Speaker also laid before the House a House bill to be entitled

H. R. 14. An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property;

which had been amended by the Senate.

The House having refused to concur in the amendment of the Senate, and the Senate having insisted upon its amendment and asked a committee of conference,

Mr. Jones moved that the House recede from its disagreement.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title, viz:

H. R. 49. An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments proposed by this House to the bill of the Senate (S. 73) entitled "An act to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war."

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House went into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Two messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which are as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 3) entitled

An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service," etc., approved October 11, 1862.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 67. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee; and

H. R. 55. An act to provide for the appointment of military storekeepers in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 120. An act to regulate the rank of officers of the Provisional Corps of Artillery on ordnance duty;

S. 127. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide a staff and clerical force for any general who may be assigned by the President to duty at the seat of government," approved March 25, 1862; and

S. 140. An act to authorize the President to appoint officers in the Niter Bureau and in the engineer troops during the recess of the Senate;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 65. An act to create a provisional navy of the Confederate States.

The Senate insist on their amendment, disagreed to by the House, to the bill of this House (H. R. 14) to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property," ask a conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Wigfall, Mr. Johnson of Georgia, and Mr. Davis as managers on the part of the Senate at said conference.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, joint resolutions of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 1. Joint resolution of thanks to General Wheeler and the officers and men of his command;

H. R. 6. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. John H. Morgan, officers and men of his command; and

H. R. 14. Joint resolution of thanks to Brig. Gen. N. B. Forrest and the officers and men under his command.

The House again resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 41. An act to provide for the payment of the interest on the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina.

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 138. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to better provide for the sick and wounded of the Army in hospitals," approved September 27, 1862;

In which bill and amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: On the 28th instant the President approved and signed the following bill:

H. R. 44. An act for the relief of John Prosser Tabb.

On the 29th instant the President approved bills of the following titles:

H. R. 46. An act for the relief of Lieut. Thomas T. Kirtland;

H. R. 58. An act to admit free of duty all machinery for the manufacture of cotton or wool, or necessary for carrying on any of the mechanic arts;

H. R. 48. An act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers;

H. R. 40. An act to prescribe the rates of postage on newspapers, periodicals, books, and transient and other matter, and to repeal in part the second section of the act approved May 13, 1861, to amend an act to prescribe the rates of postage in the Confederate States of America, and for other purposes, approved February 23, 1861; and

H. R. 60. An act to declare the meaning and extend the provisions of an act entitled "An act to increase the pay of certain officers and employees in the executive and legislative departments," approved October 13, 1862.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 70. An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The President has to-day approved and signed a bill of the following title:

H. R. 20. An act to allow commutation for clothing to the militia in actual service of the Confederate States.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 39. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in certain Indian nations;" and

H. R. 66. A bill to be entitled "An act to change the place of holding the district court for the western district of Texas."

Also the following joint resolutions:

H. R. 1. Joint resolution of thanks to General Wheeler and the officers and men of his command; and

H. R. 6. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. John H. Morgan, officers and men of his command.

Also the following Senate bills:

S. 126. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named;"

S. 79. A bill to be entitled "An act for the benefit of certain claimants for postal services;"

S. 119. A bill to be entitled "An act to declare Treasury notes and bonds, inclosed in boxes for transmission by the Treasury Department, mailable matter, and to regulate the rates of postage;" also

H. R. 67. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee;"

H. R. 68. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the election of members of Congress for certain districts of the State of Louisiana;"

H. R. 3. A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled 'An act to exempt certain persons from military service,' etc., approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;"

H. R. 61. A bill to be entitled "An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned;"

S. 73. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war;" and

S. 118. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the establishment of express mails."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled House bills of the following titles:

H. R. 14. An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property;

H. R. 65. An act to create a provisional navy of the Confederate States; and

H. R. 70. An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers.

And the following joint resolutions:

H. R. 14. Joint resolution of thanks to Brig. Gen. N. B. Forrest and the officers and men under his command;

H. R. 16. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for the repulse of the ironclad fleet of the enemy from the harbor of Charleston on the 7th of April, 1863; and

H. R. 17. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Oscar M. Watkins and the officers and men under his command.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 118. An act to authorize the establishment of express mails.

The Senate have receded from their disagreement to the amendments of this House to the bills of the Senate entitled

S. 19. An act to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department; and

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, joint resolutions of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 16. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for the repulse of the ironclad fleet of the enemy from the harbor of Charleston on the 7th of April, 1863; and

H. R. 17. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Oscar M. Watkins and the officers and men under his command.

Mr. McQueen, from the Committee on Accounts, submitted a report; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House then adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock a. m.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles:

S. 61. An act to authorize the President to contract for the construction and equipment of vessels for the Navy abroad;

S. 133. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad;" and

S. 130. An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill of the Senate entitled

S. 133. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to make appropriations for ironclad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad."

Mr. Sexton moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Sexton introduced the resolution as follows, viz:

Resolved, That two thousand copies of the acts providing for the funding of Treasury notes, the tax act, and the act providing for the collection of taxes be printed for the use of members of this House, and that the Doorkeeper be instructed to send to the members who may leave the city their ratio of the said acts and charge postage on the contingent fund of the House.

Mr. Barksdale demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the question was ordered.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Miles moved to amend the resolution by inserting "five thousand" in lieu of "two thousand."

The motion was lost.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 31
Nays----- 35

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Collier, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Freeman, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the resolution was not agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 112. An act to facilitate transportation for the Government,

bers, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Freeman, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambliss, Collier, Currin, Garland, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, Lyons, Marshall, McLean, McRae, Menees, Perkins, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Singleton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 23
 { Nays----- 40

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Currin, Garland, Hanly, Harris, Heiskell, Herbert, Jones, Lyons, Marshall, McLean, McRae, Menees, Perkins, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Villeré.

Nays: Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Freeman, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Harris moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Harris moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the bill just passed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Villeré, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 39. An act to suspend for a limited period the several acts authorizing furloughs or leaves of absence to be granted, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

Mr. Collier moved that the House go into open session.

The motion was agreed to.

NINETIETH DAY—FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 13. An act in relation to the public printing;

S. 19. An act to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department; and

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Boteler moved to suspend the rules to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Flag and Seal, and on his motion demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 46
 { Nays ----- 8 [9]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Currin, Elliott, Ewing, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, Martin, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Conrow, Freeman, Holt, Kenner, McRae, and Welsh.

So the rules were suspended.

Mr. Boteler, from the Committee on Flag and Seal, to which had been referred a bill of the Senate to be entitled

S. 132. An act to establish the flag of the Confederate States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 29
 { Nays ----- 27 [28]

Yeas: Arrington, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Holt, Lewis, Marshall, McLean, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Russell, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Garnett, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenner, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, Menees, Read, Sexton, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was laid on the table.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 30th instant, approve and sign bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 134. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act recognizing the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States, and concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods,' approved May sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," approved May 21, 1861, and numbered 170 of the acts of the second session of the Provisional Congress of 1861;

S. 104. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Navy to appoint clerks to the commandant and quartermaster of the Marine Corps;

S. 87. An act entitled "An act to regulate the supplies of clothing to enlisted men of the Navy during the war;"

S. 108. An act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments,' approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;"

S. 128. An act entitled "An act to authorize the appointment of a chief constructor in the Navy, and to fix the pay;" and

S. 96. An act to increase the pay of masters' mates in the Navy.

Mr. Herbert moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill last reported from the Committee on Flag and Seal was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Russell,

The House went into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: On the 30th ultimo the President approved and signed the following joint resolution and acts:

H. R. 13. Joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to establish a seal for the Confederate States;

H. R. 30. An act entitled "An act to punish forgery and counterfeiting;" also

H. R. 34. An act entitled "An act concerning fees of district attorneys."

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have rejected the bill of this House entitled

H. R. 69. An act authorizing the detail of men for service in the Engineer Department.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 64. An act to provide for placing in the military service of the Confederate States citizens of the United States residing or sojourning within the limits of the Confederate States.

Mr. Smith of Alabama, under a suspension of the rules, made a report from the special committee appointed to inquire into the treatment of prisoners confined in Castle Thunder; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Simpson, from same committee, made a minority report; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chambers, from Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 112. A bill to be entitled "An act to facilitate transportation for the Government."

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Hartridge moved to reconsider the vote by which the House laid on the table the report of the Committee on Flag and Seal.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question being on the motion to lay the bill on the table,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the flag of the Confederate States shall be as follows: A white field with the battle flag for a union; which shall be square and occupy two-thirds of the width of the flag, and a blue bar, one-third of the flag in its width, dividing the field lengthwise.

Mr. Hartridge moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: Strike out the words "and a blue bar" and what follows.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Hartridge as follows, viz: Strike out all after the word "flag," in second place, and insert

and a red border around the entire field, except that portion occupied by the union, which border shall be on each side one-tenth of the width of the entire flag.

Mr. Garnett called the question, and on his call

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas -----	33
Nays -----	28

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Batson, Bell, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Jones, Machen, Martin, McLean, Munnerlyn, Read, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Clapp, Currin, Curry, Farrow, Garnett, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the amendment of Mr. Conrad was adopted.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend the bill by striking out the word "two-thirds" and inserting the word "three-fifths."

Mr. Atkins moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table, and on his motion demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Garnett called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Chambers was adopted.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting

That the flag of the Confederate States shall be as follows: A red field with a Saint Andrew's cross of blue edged with white and emblazoned with stars,

And on his motion demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas -----	14
Nays -----	51

Yeas: Barksdale, Clapp, Clopton, Curry, Heiskell, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Perkins, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, DeJarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment of Mr. Swan was not agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the bill as follows, viz:

Provided, That the cross in the union shall not be emblazoned with stars.

Mr. Trippe moved to postpone and to lay the whole subject on the table until the second Monday in December next, and on his motion

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to postpone was lost.

Mr. Garnett called the previous question, and the main question was ordered; which, being on the amendment of Mr. Barksdale, was decided in the negative, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the original bill as follows, viz: Strike out all after the words "as follows," in third line, and insert

The field to be white, the length double the width of the flag, with the union (now used as the battle flag) to be a square of two-thirds the width of the flag, having the ground red, thereon a saltier of blue, bordered with white and emblazoned with mullets or five-pointed stars, corresponding in number to that of the Confederate States.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did on to-day approve and sign a bill entitled

S. 141. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title:

H. R. 64. An act to be entitled "An act to provide for placing in the military service of the Confederate States citizens of the United States residing or sojourning within the limits of the Confederate States;" which was signed by the Speaker.

A message was received from the President, through the hands of Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 30th ultimo the President approved and signed the following joint resolution and acts:

H. R. 13. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to establish a seal for the Confederate States;"

H. R. 30. An act entitled "An act to punish forgery and counterfeiting;" and

H. R. 34. An act entitled "An act concerning fees of district attorneys."

Very respectfully,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., May 1, 1863.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have adopted a resolution in regard to the adjournment of the two Houses of Congress; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title, viz:

An act to establish certain post routes therein named; which was signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the resolution of the Senate by inserting "the first day of June."

The motion to amend was lost, and the resolution of the Senate was agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows; viz: "

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the message and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Speaker also laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, viz: "

On motion of Mr. Conrad, the message was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Speaker presented a bill of the House to be entitled

H. R. 41. An act to provide for the payment of the interest on the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina;

which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The question being upon postponing and placing the bill on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then taken up for consideration and read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That the Secretary of the Treasury cause to be paid to the North Carolina Cherokee Indians embraced in the roll of John C. Mullay, or the legal representatives of such of them as have died since their enrollment, the interest annually due upon the sum of forty-three dollars and thirty-three cents, respectively, per capita, from the twenty-third day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty, and annually thereafter at the rate aforesaid, until the said Indians shall remove to the Indian Territory or shall be allowed to remain permanently in the State of North Carolina by an appropriate act of the said State.

The question then recurred upon agreeing to the amendments of the Senate; which are as follows, viz:

(1) Insert, in line 3, after the word "to," the words "those of."

(2) Insert, in line 3, after the word "Indians," the words "now living."

(3) Strike out, in line 6, the word "forty-three" and insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty-three."

And the amendments were agreed to.

Mr. Herbert, from the committee to examine into the affairs of Castle Thunder, submitted a minority report; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Boteler, from the Committee on Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, under a suspension of the rules, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 140. An act to authorize the President to appoint officers in the Niter Bureau and in the engineer troops during the recess of the Senate.

The House having refused to postpone and place the bill on the Calendar,

It was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Gray, from the Committee on the Judiciary, under a suspension of the rules, reported back a joint resolution to be entitled

S. 14. Joint resolution relative to the treatment of prisoners of war by the enemy.

On motion of Mr. Gray, the joint resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 102. An act to amend the several acts fixing the pay and allowances to chaplains in the Provisional Army, with the recommendation that it pass with an amendment.

The bill was postponed and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a resolution; which is as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House at the next session of Congress the names of the officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates of the Army who have received medals or badges of distinction under the provisions of an act entitled "An act to authorize the grant of medals and badges of distinction as a reward for courage and good conduct on the field of battle," approved October thirteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

Mr. Heiskell moved to amend the resolution as follows, viz: By inserting, after the word "distinction," the words "or to whom they have been awarded."

The motion to amend was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Conrad moved to suspend the rules so as to enable him to introduce a bill, and on his motion

Mr. Garland demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 24
 { Nays----- 33 [32]

Yeas: Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Hodge, Jones, Lyons, Machen, Miller, Perkins, Swan, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Batson, Bell, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Currin, Farrow, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Herbert, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the House refused to suspend the rules.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Mr. Speaker: The President has to-day approved and signed the following act and joint resolutions:

H. R. 59. An act entitled "An act to continue and amend the third section of an act supplementary to an act concerning the pay and allowance due to deceased soldiers, approved February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and to provide for the prompt settlement of claims for arrearages of pay, allowance, and bounty due deceased officers and soldiers;" also

H. R. 1. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution of thanks to General Wheeler and the officers and men of his command;" also

H. R. 6. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution of thanks to General John H. Morgan, officers and men of his command;" also

H. R. 16. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution of thanks to General G. T. Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for the repulse of the ironclad fleet of the enemy from the harbor of Charleston on the seventh of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" also

H. R. 17. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution of thanks to Major Oscar M. Watkins and the officers and men under his command;" also

H. R. 14. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution of thanks to Brigadier-General N. B. Forrest and the officers and men under his command;" also

H. R. 10. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution to provide for the payment of certain accounts of the acting quartermaster and other officers of the Indian troops;"

Very respectfully,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, May 1, 1863.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 132. An act to establish the flag of the Confederate States; which was signed by the Speaker.

Mr. Perkins moved to reconsider the vote by which the House postponed and placed on the Calendar a bill of the Senate to be entitled

S. 102. An act to amend the several acts fixing the pay and allowances to chaplains in the Provisional Army.

Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 39
 } Nays----- 13

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Graham, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Herbert, Hilton, Holcombe, Holt, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Read, Sexton, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Conrow, Crockett, Freeman, Garland, Hanly, Jones, Kenner, Marshall, Pugh, and Wright of Tennessee.

There being no quorum present,

The House took a recess until 3 o'clock p. m.

On reassembling,

Mr. Perkins moved that a committee of three be appointed to wait upon the President and inform him that Congress has resolved to adjourn at 4 o'clock, and inquire if he has any further communication to make.

The motion was agreed to, and

The Speaker appointed as the committee, Messrs. Perkins, Holcombe, and Curry.

Mr. Miles moved to extend the session to 5 o'clock.

The motion to extend was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the resolution of the House of Representatives in regard to the hour for adjournment of the Congress.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 120. An act to regulate the rank of officers of the Provisional Corps of Artillery on ordnance duty; also

S. 127. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide a staff and clerical force for any general who may be assigned by the President to duty at the seat of government," approved March 25, 1862; which were postponed and placed upon the Calendar.

A message was received from the President, through the hands of Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that he had to-day approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 65. An act to create a provisional navy of the Confederate States;

H. R. 55. An act to be entitled "An act to provide for the appointment of military storekeepers in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States;"

H. R. 70. An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers; and

H. R. 66. An act to change the place of holding the district court for the western district of Texas.

Mr. McRae, from the Committee on the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, reported back a bill of the House to be entitled "An act better to provide for the shelter and subsistence of troops passing through Richmond;" which was read first and second times, postponed, and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. McRae, from the same committee, also submitted a report; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that he had to-day approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 3. An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service," etc., approved October 11, 1862;

H. R. 49. An act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals; and

H. R. 68. An act to provide for the election of members of Congress for certain districts of the State of Louisiana.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 43. An act to be entitled "An act for the relief of S. B. Lowe."

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 43. An act for the relief of S. B. Lowe.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., May 1, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of the reports of the battle of McDowell, in response to your resolution of the 25th ultimo.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying documents were laid upon the table, and 3,000 copies ordered to be printed.

Mr. Perkins, from the joint committee of the two Houses appointed to wait upon the President and inform him that Congress had resolved to adjourn at 4 [5?] o'clock, reported that the committee had performed that duty, and that the President had informed them he was engaged in the preparation of a message which he would not be able to communicate to the House prior to the hour fixed for the adjournment.

Mr. Perkins moved to extend the session to 9 o'clock, and the motion was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did on to-day approve and sign bills entitled

S. 68. An act to abolish all ports of delivery in the Confederate States;

S. 79. An act for the benefit of certain claimants for postal services;

S. 118. An act to authorize the establishment of express mails;

S. 119. An act to declare Treasury notes and bonds, inclosed in boxes for transmission by the Treasury Department, mailable matter, and to regulate the rates of postage;

S. 126. An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named;

S. 116. An act to authorize the Secretary of War to purchase or lease real estate; and

S. 19. An act to amend an act to organize the clerical force of the Treasury Department.

The Senate have passed the following resolution; in which they request the concurrence of this House:

"Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring), That the resolution fixing the hour for the adjournment of Congress at five o'clock postmeridian to-day be, and

the same is hereby, rescinded, and that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives adjourn their respective Houses, sine die, at nine o'clock postmeridian this day."

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 141. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that he had to-day approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 41. An act to provide for the payment of the interest on the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina;

H. R. 43. An act for the relief of S. B. Lowe;

H. R. 73. An act to establish certain post routes therein named; and

H. R. 61. An act to make appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the periods therein mentioned.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President has notified the Senate that he did, on the 30th ultimo, approve and sign a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 90. An act relative to certain bonds and Treasury notes issued under the provisions of the act approved May 16, 1861.

The President to-day approved and signed bills of the following titles, viz: -

S. 107. An act to provide for the transfer of persons serving in the Army to the Navy;

S. 88. An act in relation to the custody of persons charged with offenses against the Confederate States;

S. 56. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862;

S. 89. An act to abolish supernumerary offices in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments;

S. 81. An act to provide for the payment of certain North Carolina troops from the time of their enlistment;

S. 62. An act to pay officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates not legally mustered into the service of the Confederate States for services actually performed;

S. 132. An act to establish the flag of the Confederate States;

S. 140. An act to authorize the President to appoint officers in the Niter Bureau and in the engineer troops during the recess of the Senate; and

S. 138. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to better provide for the sick and wounded of the Army in hospitals," approved September 27, 1862.

The Senate have passed a resolution postponing the hour of adjournment of the two Houses of Congress until 10 o'clock p. m.;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Speaker laid before the House the resolution of the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Resolved (the House of Representatives concurring), That the resolution fixing the hour of adjournment of Congress at nine o'clock postmeridian this day be, and the same is hereby, rescinded, and that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives adjourn their two Houses, sine die, at ten o'clock postmeridian.

The question being on agreeing to the resolution.

Mr. De Jarnette demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas-----	47
Nays-----	5

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Garland, Graham, and McLean.

No quorum having voted, the yeas and nays were again ordered by the House.

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 51
Nays ----- 3

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Gaither, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Kenner, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Garland, and Graham.

So the resolution of the Senate was agreed to.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

To the honorable House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America:

I herewith return the House act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee, with a statement of the objections which have caused me to withhold my approval of the same.

The first clause of the fourth section of the first article of the Constitution authorizes Congress to legislate as to the times, place, and manner of holding elections for Representatives.

I have grave doubts whether this extends to the proposed change from the district to the general ticket system of representation, which seems to me to be rather to change the mode of representation than to alter the manner of holding elections.

The fifth section of the bill is, in my judgment, unconstitutional in this, that it assumes that a citizen may forfeit his right of citizenship by adhering to the enemy, and recognizes the right of a citizen to elect to be a citizen, not of his State, but of the United States, a foreign nation. This directly repudiates State sovereignty and admits that a citizen's allegiance to his State may be renounced while resident therein.

This section also is subject to the objection that it exercises the power of prescribing the qualifications of voters, which belongs exclusively to the States.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., May 1, 1863.

Mr. Garland moved to postpone the consideration of the message and the bill vetoed by the President.

The motion was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body: which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of this House entitled

H. R. 15. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and soldiers engaged in the defense of Fort McAllister, Ga.

The Senate have also passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 73. An act to establish certain post routes therein named.

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled S. 141. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee.

Mr. Atkins demanded the previous question, and the main question was ordered.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Miles introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Doorkeeper of the House be authorized to have made a Confederate flag, after the model of the flag adopted by Congress this day, and that the same be raised over the Capitol at twelve meridian on the first day of the next session of Congress; the expenses of making said flag to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House;

which was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to postpone the message of the President vetoing the bill of this House (H. R. 67) entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee" until next session.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, to wit:	} Yeas	48
	} Nays	9

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, De Jarnette, Elliott, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Harris, Hartridge, Herbert, Hilton, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Marshall, McRae, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Villéré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Batson, Crockett, Ewing, Gray, Jones, Martin, McLean, Mencees, and Munnerlyn.

So the motion to postpone prevailed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that he had to-day approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 26. An act for the assessment and collection of taxes;

H. R. 39. An act to provide certain regulations for holding elections for Delegates to the Congress of the Confederate States in certain Indian nations; and

II. R. 14. An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a joint resolution entitled

H. R. 15. A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and soldiers engaged in the defense of Fort McAllister, Ga.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., May 1, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolutions of the 29th January and the 28th February, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a report of the Commissary-General and copies of other papers relative to Lieut. Col. W. A. Broadwell.

In addition to the information furnished by the Secretary of War, I may state that before his appointment to his present commission Mr. Broadwell was an agent of the Government to pay and purchase certain supplies for the troops of the State of Missouri in the year 1861. His accounts were adjusted to the satisfaction of the accounting officers of the Government.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying documents were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following bill:

S. 141. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States in the State of Tennessee."

A message from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that he had to-day approved and signed the following joint resolution:

H. R. 15. A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and soldiers engaged in the defense of Fort McAllister, Ga.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title, viz:

H. R. 41. A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of the interest on the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina."

And the same was signed by the Speaker.

The hour fixed for adjournment by the two Houses having arrived, the Speaker pronounced the House adjourned sine die.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Russell, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the joint resolutions relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message, made the following report:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the Senate and House of Representatives on the joint resolutions relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message respectfully recommend as follows, viz:

That the Senate agree to the amendment of the House, with an amendment, and that the House agree to said amendment as follows, viz:

Strike out the resolutions adopted by the House and insert in lieu thereof the resolutions herewith reported, and that the title be amended so as to read "Joint resolutions on the subject of retaliation."

CHARLES W. RUSSELL,

A. H. GARLAND,

Committee of the House.

THOS. J. SEMMES,

HERSCHEL V. JOHNSON,

R. L. Y. PEYTON,

Committee on the part of the Senate.

The resolutions having been read as follows, viz:

1. *Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America*, In response to the message of the President, transmitted to Congress at the commencement of the present session, that, in the opinion of Congress, the commissioned officers of the enemy ought not to be delivered to the authorities of the respective States, as suggested in the said message, but all captives taken by the Confederate forces ought to be dealt with and disposed of by the Confederate Government.

2. That, in the judgment of Congress, the proclamations of the President of the United States, dated, respectively, September twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and January first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and the other meas-

nres of the Government of the United States and its authorities, commanders, and forces, designed or tending to emancipate slaves in the Confederate States, or to abduct such slaves, or to incite them to insurrection, or to employ negroes in war against the Confederate States, or to overthrow the institution of African slavery and bring on a servile war in these States, would, if successful, produce atrocious consequences, and they are inconsistent with the spirit of those usages which in modern warfare prevail among civilized nations, they may therefore be properly and lawfully repressed by retaliation.

3. That in every case wherein, during the present war, any violation of the laws or usages of war among civilized nations shall be or has been done and perpetrated by those acting under the authority of the Government of the United States on the persons or property of citizens of the Confederate States or of those under the protection or in the land or naval service of the Confederate States or of any State of the Confederacy, the President of the Confederate States is hereby authorized to cause full and ample retaliation to be made for every such violation in such manner and to such extent as he may think proper.

4. That every white person being a commissioned officer, or acting as such, who, during the present war, shall command negroes or mulattoes in arms against the Confederate States, or who shall arm, train, organize, or prepare negroes or mulattoes for military service against the Confederate States, or who shall voluntarily aid negroes or mulattoes in any military enterprise, attack, or conflict in such service, shall be deemed as inciting servile insurrection, and shall, if captured, be put to death or be otherwise punished, at the discretion of the court.

5. Every person being a commissioned officer, or acting as such, in the service of the enemy, who shall, during the present war, excite, attempt to excite, or cause to be excited a servile insurrection, or who shall incite or cause to be incited a slave to rebel, shall, if captured, be put to death or be otherwise punished, at the discretion of the court.

6. Every person charged with an offense punishable under the preceding resolutions shall, during the present war, be tried before the military court attached to the army or corps by the troops of which he shall have been captured or by such other military court as the President may direct and in such manner and under such regulations as the President shall prescribe, and, after conviction, the President may commute the punishment in such manner and on such terms as he may deem proper.

7. All negroes and mulattoes who shall be engaged in war, or be taken in arms against the Confederate States, or shall give aid and comfort to the enemies of the Confederate States, shall, when captured in the Confederate States, be delivered to the authorities of the State or States in which they shall be captured to be dealt with according to the present or future laws of such State or States.

Mr. Gray called the question.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: }	Yeas-----	29
	Nays-----	27

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Ewing, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Herbert, Holt, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Miles, Moore, Russell, Sexton, Swan, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Freeman, Garnett, Hanly, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, Menees, Miller, Perkins, Read, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the question was ordered.

Mr. Holt moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: }	Yeas-----	34
	Nays-----	26

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Currin, Curry,

Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Hanly, Hodge, Holcombe, Holt, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, Menees, Miles, Read, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Atkins, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Conrow, Crockett, Ewing, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Herbert, Kenner, Lewis, Machen, Marshall, Moore, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Swan, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question being on ordering the question on the report of the committee of conference,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Perkins called the question.

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 36
Nays ----- 21

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Batson, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Martin, Miles, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Holt, Jones, Lyons, McLean, Menees, Miller, Smith of North Carolina, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the question was ordered; which being on the adoption of the report of the committee of conference,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 35
Nays ----- 22

Yeas: Barksdale, Batson, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Garland, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenner, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Marshall, Martin, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Conrad, Conrow, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Hanly, Holt, Jones, Lyons, McLean, Menees, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the report was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the report of the committee of conference when the President shall have approved the same, and that the report be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., April 30, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of the Navy in reference to a recent act of Congress establishing a "volunteer navy."

I concur with him in the opinion that the injunction of secrecy should be removed from the law.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

And on motion of Mr. Conrad, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the act alluded to in the message of the President.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 2. A joint resolution to be entitled "A joint resolution relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message."

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, through the hands of Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the joint resolution of the Senate (S. 2) entitled "Joint resolution relative to the plan of retaliation proposed in the President's message."

The President has notified the Senate that he did, on the 30th ultimo, approve and sign a bill entitled

S. 130. An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes.

The President to-day approved and signed bills entitled

S. 133. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to make appropriations for iron-clad and other war steamers, steam engines, and other supplies contracted for abroad;" and

S. 61. An act to authorize the President to contract for the construction and equipment of vessels for the Navy abroad.

And on motion of Mr. Conrad,

The House resolved itself into open session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF
THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

FIRST CONGRESS, FOURTH SESSION, DECEMBER 7, 1863, TO FEBRUARY
17, 1864.

FIRST DAY—MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met at 12 o'clock, and was opened with prayer by the
Rev. Dr. Moore.

Upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their
names, viz:

From the State of—

ALABAMA	Curry. Chilton. Clopton. Pugh. Dargan.
ARKANSAS	Hanly.
FLORIDA	Hilton.
GEORGIA	Hartridge. Kenan. Clark. Gartrell.
KENTUCKY	Machen. Read. Burnett. Horatio W. Bruce. Eli M. Bruce.
LOUISIANA	Conrad. Perkins.
MISSISSIPPI	Welsh.
MISSOURI	Bell. Conrow. Vest.

NORTH CAROLINA	-----	Bridgers. Gaither. McDowell. McLean.
SOUTH CAROLINA	-----	Miles. Ayer. Simpson. Farrow. Boyce.
TENNESSEE	-----	Swan. Foote. Jones. Menees. Atkins. Currin.
TEXAS	-----	Wilcox. Gray. Sexton. Graham. Wright.
VIRGINIA	-----	Garnett. Chambliss. Lyons. Collier. Goode. Holcombe. De Jarnette. Boteler. Baldwin. Staples. Preston. Miller. Johnston. Russell.

A quorum being present,

Mr. Boteler announced the presence of Mr. Funsten, a member-elect from the State of Virginia, who came forward, was duly qualified, and took his seat.

Mr. H. W. Bruce asked for leave of absence for his colleague, Mr. Moore; which was granted.

Mr. Swan asked for leave of absence for his colleague, Mr. Heiskell; which was granted.

Mr. Wilcox asked leave of absence for Mr. Barksdale, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

The leave was granted.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: I am instructed by the Senate to inform the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate has assembled, and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

On motion of Mr. H. W. Bruce,

A message was sent to the Senate, informing that body that a quorum of the House was present and ready to proceed to business.

Mr. Bell asked for leave of absence for his colleague, Mr. Harris; which was granted.

Mr. Garnett moved that a committee be appointed to join such committee as may be appointed by the Senate to wait upon the President and inform him that the Congress of the Confederate States was in session and ready to receive any communication he might think proper to make.

The motion was agreed to, and

The Speaker appointed as the committee on the part of the House Messrs. Garnett of Virginia, Chilton of Alabama, and Swan of Tennessee.

Mr. Conrad offered the following joint resolution:

The Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States do resolve, That a joint committee of members of the Senate and members of the House of Representatives be appointed, whose duty it shall be to consider the state of the currency, and as speedily as possible to report such measures as in their judgment may be best calculated to relieve it.

On motion of Mr. Conrad, the joint resolution was laid upon the table.

Mr. Conrad offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the answers of the Commissary-General to the inquiries contained in the resolutions adopted by this House on the third day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, calling for information in relation to the powers conferred on W. A. Broadwell, and all papers appended to said answers be referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, with instructions to examine the same and prosecute said inquiries, and if said answers be found insufficient or unsatisfactory, to send for persons and papers, and that said committee be authorized to report by bill or otherwise.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Farrow presented the petition of Mrs. Margaret A. Rice, praying duplicate Confederate 8 per cent bonds to be issued to her in place of those which she lost by fire: which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole immediately on the condition of the currency, with a view to considering at once this momentous subject and settling the principles upon which suitable and adequate legislation may be provided, without delay, for raising the same from its present deplorable state of depression, and securing it against future depreciation.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The resolution was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a resolution to appoint a committee of three to join the committee appointed by the House of Representatives to wait on the President of the Confederate States and inform him that a quorum of each House is assembled, and that Congress is ready to receive any communications he may be pleased to make; and have appointed Mr. Brown, Mr. Henry, and Mr. Simms the committee on their part.

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Garnett, from the joint committee appointed to wait upon the President, reported that the committee had waited upon the President, who informed them that he would send in a communication at 12 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act providing for the assemblage of the two Houses of Congress on the first Monday in March of each year;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Welsh moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the House will, on Tuesday next, after the President's message shall have been received and read by the House, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on the currency, with a view to devising means as early as practicable for the reformation thereof, and for the prevention of future depreciation, when the portion of the President's message relating to this subject and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury will be taken up for consideration, and all the various propositions which may be submitted for the attainment of the ends specified will have due attention accorded them.

Resolved, That on every day after Tuesday, the House will again resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on this important subject, at the hour of one o'clock post-meridian precisely, and continue each day in session for at least three hours, until some suitable and adequate plan of finance shall have been agreed upon.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the resolution was lost.

Mr. Garnett offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this House proceed to draw for seats in the same manner adopted at the last session,

And demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 38
 { Nays----- 18

Yeas: Ayer, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Dargan, Farrow, Freeman, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Menees, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Vest.

Nays: Atkins, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Gaither, Jones, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Miller, Swan, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the resolution was agreed to.

The House then proceeded to draw seats in the usual manner, with the following result, viz:

31 Arrington.
5 Ashe.
1 Atkins.
3 Ayer.
57 Baldwin.
35 Barksdale.
37 Batson.
2 Bell.

46 Boteler.
86 Boudinot.
40 Boyce.
66 Breckinridge.
48 Bridgers.
49 Bruce, Eli M.
94 Bruce, Horatio W.
7 Burnett.

36 Chambers.	107 Jones [of Tennessee].
39 Chambliss.	20 Kenan of Georgia.
58 Chilton.	82 Kenan of North Carolina.
15 Chrisman.	99 Kenner.
45 Clapp.	28 Lander.
56 Clark.	16 Lewis.
59 Clopton.	81 Lyon.
32 Collier.	88 Lyons.
8 Conrad.	30 Machen.
25 Conrow.	71 Marshall.
14 Crockett.	98 Martin.
27 Currin.	55 McDowell.
18 Curry.	62 McLean.
43 Dargan.	63 McQueen.
95 Davidson.	65 McKae.
38 Davis.	78 Macwillie.
44 De Jarnette.	61 Menees.
50 Dupré.	11 Miles.
33 Elliott.	90 Miller.
41 Ewing.	87 Moore.
6 Farrow.	64 Munnerlyn.
74 Foote.	100 Perkins.
84 Foster.	80 Preston.
4 Freeman.	69 Pugh.
19 Funsten.	76 Ralls.
29 Gaither.	68 Read.
13 Gardenhire.	97 Royston.
47 Garland.	104 Russell.
42 Garnett.	70 Sexton.
83 Gartrell.	73 Simpson.
17 Gentry.	23 Singleton.
52 Goode.	67 Smith of Alabama.
75 Graham.	60 Smith of North Carolina.
54 Gray.	92 Staples.
72 Hanly.	108 Strickland.
21 Harris.	109 Swan.
22 Hartridge.	105 Tibbs.
51 Heiskell.	106 Trippe.
9 Herbert.	24 Vest.
79 Hilton.	12 Villeré.
10 Hodge.	89 Welsh.
53 Holcombe.	91 Wilcox.
96 Holt.	85 Wright of Georgia.
26 Hyer.	93 Wright of Tennessee.
77 Johnston.	101 Wright of Texas.
34 Jones of Cherokee.	

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECOND DAY—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Moore.

On motion of Mr. Jones, leave of absence was granted Mr. Atkins, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

Mr. Foote presented the memorial of Gen. G. Tochman, praying that brigadier's salary and commutation for three years be paid to him, it being the period for which he raised the Polish brigade, under authority, and its troops being in service of the Confederate States since the commencement of the war; or that his actual expenses (\$5,925 in gold and \$1,600 in the Confederate States currency) be refunded to him.

Pending the consideration of which,

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which was read as follows, viz:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States:

The necessity for legislative action, arising out of the important events that have marked the interval since your adjournment, and my desire to have the aid of your counsel on other matters of grave public interest, render your presence at this time more than ordinarily welcome. Indeed, but for serious obstacles to convoking you in extraordinary session, and the necessity for my own temporary absence from the seat of government, I would have invited you to an earlier meeting than that fixed at the date of your adjournment.

Grave reverses befell our arms soon after your departure from Richmond. Early in July our strongholds at Vicksburg and Port Hudson, together with their entire garrisons, capitulated to the combined land and naval forces of the enemy. The important interior position of Jackson next fell into their temporary possession. Our unsuccessful assault on the post at Helena was followed at a later period by the invasion of Arkansas, and the retreat of our army from Little Rock gave to the enemy the control of the important valley in which it is situated.

The resolute spirit of the people soon rose superior to the temporary despondency naturally resulting from these reverses. The gallant troops, so ably commanded in the States beyond the Mississippi, inflicted repeated defeats on the invading armies in Louisiana and on the coast of Texas. Detachments of troops and active bodies of partisans kept up so effective a war on the Mississippi River as practically to destroy its value as an avenue of commerce.

The determined and successful defense of Charleston against the joint land and naval operations of the enemy afforded an inspiring example of our ability to repel the attacks even of the ironclad fleet on which they chiefly rely, while on the northern frontier our success was still more marked.

The able commander who conducted the campaign in Virginia determined to meet the threatened advance on Richmond, for which the enemy had made long and costly preparations, by forcing their armies to cross the Potomac and fight in defense of their own capital and homes. Transferring the battlefield to their own soil, he succeeded in compelling their rapid retreat from Virginia, and in the hard-fought battle of Gettysburg inflicted such severity of punishment as disabled them from early renewal of the campaign, as originally projected. Unfortunately the communications on which our general relied for receiving his supplies of munitions were interrupted by extraordinary floods, which so swelled the Potomac as to render impassable the fords by which his advance had been made, and he was thus forced to a withdrawal, which was conducted with deliberation, after securing large trains of captured supplies, and with a constant but unaccepted tender of battle. On more than one occasion the enemy has since made demonstrations of a purpose to advance, invariably followed by a precipitate retreat to intrenched lines on the approach of our forces.

The effective check thus offered to the advance of the invaders at all points was such as to afford hope of their early expulsion from portions of the territory previously occupied by them, when the country was painfully surprised by the intelligence that the officer in command of Cumberland Gap had surrendered that

important and easily defensible pass without firing a shot, upon the summons of a force still believed to have been inadequate to its reduction and when reinforcements were in supporting distance and had been ordered to his aid. The entire garrison, including the commander, being still held prisoners by the enemy, I am unable to suggest any explanation of this disaster, which laid open eastern Tennessee and southwestern Virginia to hostile operations and broke the line of communication between the seat of government and middle Tennessee. This easy success of the enemy was followed by an advance of General Rosecrans into Georgia, and our army evacuated Chattanooga and availed itself of the opportunity thus afforded of winning, on the field of Chickamauga, one of the most brilliant and decisive victories of the war. This signal defeat of General Rosecrans was followed by his retreat into Chattanooga, where his imperiled position had the immediate effect of relieving the pressure of the invasion at other points, forcing the concentration, for his relief, of large bodies of troops withdrawn from the armies in the Mississippi Valley and in northern Virginia. The combined forces thus accumulated against us in Tennessee so greatly outnumbered our army as to encourage the enemy to attack. After a long and severe battle, in which great carnage was inflicted on him, some of our troops inexplicably abandoned a position of great strength and by a disorderly retreat compelled the commander to withdraw the forces elsewhere successful and finally to retire with his whole army to a position some 20 or 30 miles to the rear. It is believed that if the troops who yielded to the assault had fought with the valor which they had displayed on previous occasions, and which was manifested in this battle on the other parts of the line, the enemy would have been repulsed with very great slaughter, and our country would have escaped the misfortune and the Army the mortification of the first defeat that has resulted from misconduct by the troops. In the mean time the army of General Burnside was driven from all its field positions in eastern Tennessee and forced to retreat into its intrenchments at Knoxville, where, for some weeks, it was threatened with capture by the forces under General Longstreet. No information has reached me of the final result of the operations of our commander, though intelligence has arrived of his withdrawal from that place.

While, therefore, our success in driving the enemy from our soil has not equaled the expectations confidently entertained at the commencement of the campaign, his progress has been checked. If we are forced to regret losses in Tennessee and Arkansas, we are not without ground for congratulation on successes in Louisiana and Texas. On the seacoast he is exhausted by vain efforts to capture our ports, while on the northern frontier he has in turn felt the pressure and dreads the renewal of invasion. The indomitable courage and perseverance of the people in the defense of their homes have been nobly attested by the unanimity with which the legislatures of Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia have recently given expression to the popular sentiment; and like manifestations may be anticipated from all the States. Whatever obstinacy may be displayed by the enemy in his desperate sacrifices of money, life, and liberty in the hope of enslaving us, the experience of mankind has too conclusively shown the superior endurance of those who fight for home, liberty, and independence to permit any doubt of the result.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

I regret to inform you that there has been no improvement in the state of our relations with foreign countries since my message in January last. On the contrary, there has been a still greater divergence in the conduct of European nations from that practical impartiality which alone deserves the name of neutrality, and their action in some cases has assumed a character positively unfriendly.

You have heretofore been informed that, by common understanding, the initiative in all action touching the contest on this continent had been left by foreign powers to the two great maritime nations of western Europe, and that the Governments of these two nations had agreed to take no measures without previous concert. The result of these arrangements has, therefore, placed it in the power of either France or England to obstruct at pleasure the recognition to which the Confederacy is justly entitled, or even to prolong the continuance of hostilities on this side of the Atlantic, if the policy of either could be promoted by the postponement of peace. Each, too, thus became possessed of great influence in so shaping the general exercise of neutral rights in Europe as to render them subservient to the purpose of aiding one of the belligerents to the detriment of the other. I referred, at your last session, to some of the leading points in the course pursued by professed neutrals which betrayed a partisan leaning to the side of our enemies, but events have since occurred which

induce me to renew the subject in greater detail than was then deemed necessary. In calling to your attention the action of those Governments I shall refer to the documents appended to President Lincoln's messages and to their own correspondence as disclosing the true nature of their policy and the motives which guided it. To this course no exception can be taken, inasmuch as our attention has been invited to those sources of information by their official publication.

In May, 1861, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty informed our enemies that it had not "allowed any other than an intermediate position on the part of the Southern States," and assured them "that the sympathies of this country (Great Britain) were rather with the North than with the South."

On the 1st day of June, 1861, the British Government interdicted the use of its ports "to armed ships and privateers, both of the United States and the so-called Confederate States," with their prizes. The Secretary of State of the United States fully appreciated the character and motive of this interdiction, when he observed to Lord Lyons, who communicated it, "that this measure, and that of the same character which had been adopted by France, would probably prove a deathblow to Southern privateering."

On the 12th June, 1861, the United States minister in London informed Her Majesty's secretary for foreign affairs that the fact of his having held interviews with the commissioners of this Government had given "great dissatisfaction," and that a protraction of this relation would be viewed by the United States "as hostile in spirit, and to require some corresponding action accordingly." In response to this intimation Her Majesty's secretary assured the minister that "he had no expectation of seeing them any more."

By proclamation, issued on the 19th and 27th April, 1861, President Lincoln proclaimed the blockade of the entire coast of the Confederacy, extending from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, embracing, according to the returns of the United States Coast Survey, a coast line of 3,549 statute miles, on which the number of rivers, bays, harbors, inlets, sounds, and passes is 189. The Navy possessed by the United States for enforcing this blockade was stated in the reports communicated by President Lincoln to the Congress of the United States to consist of 24 vessels of all classes in commission, of which half were in distant seas. The absurdity of the pretension of such a blockade, in face of the authoritative declaration of the maritime rights of neutrals made at Paris in 1856 was so glaring that the attempt was regarded as an experiment on the forbearance of neutral powers, which they would promptly resist. This conclusion was justified by the fact that the Governments of France and Great Britain determined that it was necessary for their interests to obtain from both belligerents "securities concerning the proper treatment of neutrals." In the instructions which "confided the negotiation on this matter" to the British consul in Charleston he was informed that "the most perfect accord on this question exists between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of the French," and these instructions were accompanied by a copy of the dispatch of the British foreign office of the 18th May, 1861, stating that there was no difference of opinion between Great Britain and the United States as to the validity of the principles enunciated in the fourth article of the declaration of Paris in reference to blockades. Your predecessors of the Provisional Congress had, therefore, no difficulty in proclaiming, nor I in approving, the resolutions which abandoned in favor of Great Britain and France our right to capture enemy's property when covered by the flags of those powers. The "securities" desired by those Governments were understood by us to be required from both belligerents. Neutrals were exposed on our part to the exercise of the belligerent right of capturing their vessels when conveying the property of our enemies. They were exposed, on the part of the United States, to interruption in their unquestioned right of trading with us by the declaration of the paper blockade above referred to. We had no reason to doubt the good faith of the proposal made to us, nor to suspect that we were to be the only parties bound by its acceptance. It is true that the instructions of the neutral powers informed their agents that it was "essential under present circumstances that they should act with great caution, in order to avoid raising the question of the recognition of the new Confederation," and that the understanding on the subject did not assume, for that reason, the shape of a formal convention. But it was not deemed just by us to decline the arrangement on this ground, as little more than ninety days had then elapsed since the arrival of our commissioners in Europe, and neutral nations were fairly entitled to a reasonable delay in acting on a subject of so much importance, and which, from their point of view, presented difficulties that we perhaps did not fully appreciate. Certain it is that the action of this Government on the occasion and its faithful performance of its own engagements have been such as to entitle it to expect on the part of those who sought in their own interests a mutual understanding the most scrupulous adherence to their own promises. I feel

constrained to inform you that in this expectation we have been disappointed, and that not only have the Governments which entered into these arrangements yielded to the prohibition against commerce with us, which has been dictated by the United States in defiance of the law of nations, but that this concession of their neutral rights to our detriment has on more than one occasion been claimed in intercourse with our enemies as an evidence of friendly feeling towards them. A few extracts from the correspondence of Her Majesty's chief secretary of state for foreign affairs will suffice to show marked encouragement to the United States to persevere in its paper blockade and unmistakable intimations that Her Majesty's Government would not contest its validity.

On the 21st May, 1861, Earl Russell pointed out to the United States minister in London that "the blockade might no doubt be made effective, considering the small number of harbors on the Southern coast, even though the extent of 3,000 miles were comprehended in terms of that blockade."

On the 14th January, 1862, Her Majesty's minister in Washington communicated to his Government that, in extenuation of the barbarous attempt to destroy the port of Charleston by sinking a stone fleet in the harbor, Mr. Seward had explained "that the Government of the United States had, last spring, with a navy very little prepared for so extensive an operation, undertaken to blockade upward of 3,000 miles of coast. The Secretary of the Navy had reported that he could stop up the 'large holes' by means of his ships, but that he could not stop up the 'small ones.' It had been found necessary, therefore, to close some of the numerous small inlets by sinking vessels in the channel."

On the 6th May, 1862, so far from claiming the right of British subjects as neutrals to trade with us as belligerents and to disregard the blockade on the ground of this explicit confession by our enemy of his inability to render it effective, Her Majesty's secretary of state for foreign affairs claimed credit with the United States for friendly action in respecting it. His lordship stated that "the United States Government, on the allegation of a rebellion pervading from nine to eleven States of the Union, have now for more than twelve months endeavored to maintain a blockade of 3,000 miles of coast. This blockade, kept up irregularly, but when enforced, enforced severely, has seriously injured the trade and manufactures of the United Kingdom. Thousands are now obliged to resort to the poor rates for subsistence owing to this blockade. Yet Her Majesty's Government have never sought to take advantage of the obvious imperfections of this blockade in order to declare it ineffective. They have, to the loss and detriment of the British nation, scrupulously observed the duties of Great Britain toward a friendly State."

Again, on the 22d September, 1862, the same noble earl asserted that the United States were "very far indeed" from being in "a condition to ask other nations to assume that every port of the coasts of the so-styled Confederate States is effectively blockaded."

When, in view of these facts—of the obligation of the British nation to adhere to the pledge made by their Government at Paris in 1856, and renewed to this Confederacy in 1861—and of these repeated and explicit avowals of the imperfection, irregularity, and inefficiency of the pretended blockade of our coast, I directed our commissioner at London to call upon the British Government to redeem its promise and to withhold its moral aid and sanction from the flagrant violation of public law committed by our enemies, we were informed that Her Majesty's Government could not regard the blockade of the Southern ports as having been otherwise than "practically effective" in February, 1862, and that "the manner in which it has since been enforced gives to neutral governments no excuse for asserting that the blockade has not been efficiently maintained." We were further informed, when we insisted that by the terms of our agreement no blockade was to be considered effective unless "sufficient really to prevent access to our coasts," "that the declaration of Paris was, in truth, directed against blockades not sustained by any actual force, or sustained by a notoriously inadequate force, such as the occasional appearance of a man-of-war in the offing, or the like."

It was impossible that this mode of construing an agreement, so as to make its terms mean almost the reverse of what they plainly conveyed, could be considered otherwise than as a notification of the refusal of the British Government to remain bound by its agreement, or longer to respect those articles of the declaration of Paris which had been repeatedly denounced by British statesmen and had been characterized by Earl Russell as "very imprudent" and "most unsatisfactory."

If any doubt remained of the motives by which the British ministry have been actuated in their conduct, it would be completely dissipated by the distinct avowals and explanations contained in the published speech recently made by Her Majesty's secretary for foreign affairs. In commenting on the remonstrances of this Government against the countenance given to an ineffective blockade, the following language

is used: "It is said we have, contrary to the declaration of Paris, contrary to international law, permitted the blockade of 3,000 miles of American coast. It is quite true we did so, and the presumable cause of complaint is quite true, that although the blockade is kept up by a sufficient number of ships, yet these ships were sent into the United States Navy in a hurry and are ill-fitted for the purpose and did not keep up so completely and effectively as was required an effective blockade."

This unequivocal confession of violation, both of agreement with us and of international law, is defended on grounds the validity of which we submit with confidence to the candid judgment of mankind.

These grounds are thus stated: "Still, looking at the law of nations, it was a blockade we, as a great belligerent power in former times, should have acknowledged. We ourselves had a blockade of upward of 2,000 miles, and it did seem to me that we were bound in justice to the Federal States of America to acknowledge that blockade. But there was another reason which weighed with me. Our people were suffering severely for the want of that material which was the main staff of their industry, and it was a question of self-interest whether we should not break the blockade. But in my opinion the men of England would have been forever infamous if, for the sake of their own interest, they had violated the law of nations and made war in conjunction with these slaveholding States of America against the Federal States."

In the second of these reasons our rights are not involved, although it may be permitted to observe that the conduct of governments has not heretofore, to my knowledge, been guided by the principle that it is infamous to assert their rights whenever the invasion of those rights creates severe suffering among their people and injuriously affects great interests. But the intimation that relations with these States would be discreditable because they are slaveholding would probably have been omitted if the official personage who has published it to the world had remembered that these States were, when colonies, made slaveholding by the direct exercise of the power of Great Britain, whose dependencies they were and whose interests in the slave trade were then supposed to require that her colonies should be made slaveholding.

But the other ground stated is of a very grave character. It asserts that a violation of the law of nations by Great Britain in 1807, when that Government declared a paper blockade of 2,000 miles of coast (a violation then defended by her courts and jurists on the sole ground that her action was retaliatory), affords a justification for a similar outrage on neutral rights by the United States in 1861, for which no palliation can be suggested; and that Great Britain "is bound, in justice to the Federal States," to make return for the war waged against her by the United States in resistance of her illegal blockade of 1807, by an acquiescence in the Federal illegal blockade of 1861. The most alarming feature in this statement is its admission of a just claim on the part of the United States to require of Great Britain, during this war, a disregard of the recognized principles of modern public law and of her own compacts, whenever any questionable conduct of Great Britain, "in former times," can be cited as a precedent. It is not inconsistent with respect and admiration for the great people whose Government have given us this warning to suggest that their history, like that of mankind in general, offers exceptional instances of indefensible conduct "in former times;" and we may well deny the morality of violating recent engagements through deference to the evil precedents of the past.

After defending, in the manner just stated, the course of the British Government on the subject of the blockade, Her Majesty's foreign secretary takes care to leave no doubt of the further purpose of the British Government to prevent our purchase of vessels in Great Britain, while supplying our enemies with rifles and other munitions of war, and states the intention to apply to Parliament for the furtherance of this design. He gives to the United States the assurance that he will do in their favor not only "everything that the law of nations requires, everything that the present foreign enlistment act requires," but that he will ask the sanction of Parliament "to further measures that Her Majesty's ministers may still add." This language is so unmistakably an official exposition of the policy adopted by the British Government in relation to our affairs that the duty imposed on me by the Constitution, of giving you from time to time "information of the state of the Confederacy," would not have been performed if I had failed to place it distinctly before you.

I refer you for fuller details on this whole subject to the correspondence of the State Department which accompanies this message. The facts which I have briefly narrated are, I trust, sufficient to enable you to appreciate the true nature of the neutrality professed in this war. It is not in my power to apprise you to what extent the Government of France shares the views so unreservedly avowed by that of Great Britain, no published correspondence of the French Government on the subject having been received. No public protest nor opposition, however, has been made by His Imperial Majesty against the prohibition to trade with us imposed on

French citizens by the paper blockade of the United States, although I have reason to believe that an unsuccessful attempt was made on his part to secure the assent of the British Government to a course of action more consonant with the dictates of public law and with the demands of justice toward us.

The partiality of Her Majesty's Government in favor of our enemies has been further evinced in the marked difference of its conduct on the subject of the purchase of supplies by the two belligerents. This difference has been conspicuous since the very commencement of the war. As early as the 1st May, 1861, the British minister in Washington was informed by the Secretary of State of the United States that he had sent agents to England, and that others would go to France to purchase arms, and this fact was communicated to the British foreign office, which interposed no objection. Yet in October of the same year Earl Russell entertained the complaint of the United States minister in London that the Confederate States were importing contraband of war from the island of Nassau, directed inquiry into the matter and obtained a report from the authorities of the island denying the allegations, which report was inclosed to Mr. Adams and received by him as satisfactory evidence to dissipate "the suspicion naturally thrown upon the authorities of Nassau by that unwarrantable act." So, too, when the Confederate Government purchased in Great Britain, as a neutral country (and with strict observance both of the law of nations and the municipal law of Great Britain), vessels which were subsequently armed and commissioned as vessels of war after they had been far removed from English waters, the British Government, in violation of its own laws and in deference to the importunate demands of the United States, made an ineffectual attempt to seize one vessel, and did actually seize and detain another which touched at the island of Nassau on her way to a Confederate port, and subjected her to an unfounded prosecution at the very time when cargoes of munitions of war were being openly shipped from British ports to New York to be used in warfare against us. Even now the public journals bring intelligence that the British Government has ordered the seizure in a British port of two vessels on the suspicion that they may have been sold to this Government, and that they may be hereafter armed and equipped in our service, while British subjects are engaged in Ireland by tens of thousands to proceed to the United States for warfare against the Confederacy, in defiance both of the law of nations and of the express terms of the British statutes, and are transported in British ships, without an effort at concealment, to the ports of the United States, there to be armed with rifles imported from Great Britain and to be employed against our people in a war for conquest. No royal prerogative is invoked, no executive interference is interposed against this flagrant breach of municipal and international law on the part of our enemies, while strained constructions are placed on existing statutes, new enactments proposed, and questionable expedients devised for precluding the possibility of purchase by this Government of vessels that are useless for belligerent purposes, unless hereafter armed and equipped outside of the neutral jurisdiction of Great Britain.

For nearly three years this Government has exercised unquestioned jurisdiction over many millions of willing and united people. It has met and defeated vast armies of invaders, who have in vain sought its subversion. Supported by the confidence and affection of its citizens, the Confederacy has lacked no element which distinguishes an independent nation, according to the principles of public law. Its legislative, executive, and judicial departments, each in its sphere, have performed their appropriate functions with a regularity as undisturbed as in a time of profound peace, and the whole energies of the people have been developed in the organization of vast armies, while their rights and liberties have rested secure under the protection of the courts of justice. This Confederacy is either independent or it is a dependency of the United States, for no other earthly power claims the right to govern it. Without one historic fact on which the pretension can rest, without one line or word of treaty or covenant which can give color to title, the United States have asserted, and the British Government has chosen to concede, that these sovereign States are dependencies of the Government which is administered at Washington. Great Britain has accordingly entertained with that Government the closest and most intimate relations, while refusing on its demand ordinary amicable intercourse with us, and has, under arrangements made with the other nations of Europe, not only denied our just claim of admission into the family of nations, but interposed a passive though effectual bar to the acknowledgment of our rights by other powers. So soon as it had become apparent, by the declarations of the British ministers in the debates of the British Parliament in July last, that Her Majesty's Government was determined to persist indefinitely in a course of policy which, under professions of neutrality, had become subservient to the designs of our enemy, I felt it my duty to recall the commissioner formerly accredited to that court, and the correspondence on the subject is submitted to you.

It is due to you and to our country that this full statement should be made of the just grounds which exist for dissatisfaction with the conduct of the British Government. I am well aware that we are unfortunately without adequate remedy for the injustice under which we have suffered at the hands of a powerful nation at a juncture when our entire resources are absorbed in the defense of our lives, liberties, and independence, against an enemy possessed of greatly superior numbers and material resources. Claiming no favor, desiring no aid, conscious of our own ability to defend our own rights against the utmost efforts of an infuriate foe, we had thought it not extravagant to expect that assistance would be withheld from our enemies, and that the conduct of foreign nations would be marked by a genuine impartiality between the belligerents. It was not supposed that a professed neutrality would be so conducted as to justify the foreign secretary of the British nation in explaining, in correspondence with our enemies, how "the impartial observance of neutral obligations by Her Majesty's Government has thus been exceedingly advantageous to the cause of the more powerful of the two contending parties." The British Government may deem this war a favorable occasion for establishing, by the temporary sacrifice of their neutral rights, a precedent which shall justify the future exercise of those extreme belligerent pretensions that their naval power renders so formidable. The opportunity for obtaining the tacit assent of European governments to a line of conduct which ignores the obligations of the declaration of Paris, and treats that instrument rather as a theoretical exposition of principles than a binding agreement, may be considered by the British ministry as justifying them in seeking a great advantage for their own country at the expense of ours. But we can not permit without protest the assertion that international law or morals regard as "impartial neutrality" conduct avowed to be "exceedingly advantageous" to one of the belligerents.

I have stated that we are without adequate remedy against the injustice under which we suffer. There are but two measures that seem applicable to the present condition of our relations with neutral powers. One is to imitate the wrong of which we complain, to retaliate by the declaration of a paper blockade of the coast of the United States, and to capture all neutral vessels trading with their ports that our cruisers can intercept on the high seas. This measure I can not recommend. It is true that in so doing we should but follow the precedents set by Great Britain and France in the Berlin and Milan decrees, and the British orders in council at the beginning of the present century. But it must be remembered that we ourselves protested against those very measures as signal violations of the law of nations, and declared the attempts to excuse them on the ground of their being retaliatory utterly insufficient. Those blockades are now quoted by writers on public law as a standing reproach on the good name of the nations who were betrayed by temporary exasperation into wrongdoing, and ought to be regarded rather as errors to be avoided than as examples to be followed.

The other measure is not open to this objection. The second article of the declaration of Paris, which provides "that the neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war," was a new concession by belligerents in favor of neutrals, and not simply the enunciation of an acknowledged preexisting rule, like the fourth article, which referred to blockades. To this concession we bound ourselves by the convention with Great Britain and France, which took the shape of the resolutions adopted by your predecessors on the 13th August, 1861. The consideration tendered us for that concession has been withheld. We have, therefore, the undeniable right to refuse longer to remain bound by a compact which the other party refuses to fulfill. But we should not forget that war is but temporary, and that we desire that peace shall be permanent. The future policy of the Confederacy must ever be to uphold neutral rights to their full extent. The principles of the declaration of Paris commend themselves to our judgment as more just, more humane, and more consonant with modern civilization than those belligerent pretensions which great naval powers have heretofore sought to introduce into the maritime code. To forego our undeniable right to the exercise of those pretensions is a policy higher, worthier of us and of our cause, than to revoke our adhesion to principles that we approve. Let our hope for redress rest rather on a returning sense of justice which can not fail to awaken a great people to the consciousness that the war in which we are engaged ought rather to be made a reason for forbearance of advantage than an occasion for the unfriendly conduct of which we make just complaint.

The events of the last year have produced important changes in the condition of our southern neighbor. The occupation of the capital of Mexico by the French army, and the establishment of a provisional government, followed by a radical change in the constitution of the country, have excited lively interest. Although preferring our own Government and institutions to those of other countries, we can have no disposition to contest the exercise by them of the same right of self-

government which we assert for ourselves. If the Mexican people prefer a monarchy to a republic, it is our plain duty cheerfully to acquiesce in their decision and to evince a sincere and friendly interest in their prosperity. If, however, the Mexicans prefer maintaining their former institutions, we have no reason to apprehend any obstacle to the free exercise of their choice. The Emperor of the French has solemnly disclaimed any purpose to impose on Mexico a form of government not acceptable to the nation; and the eminent personage to whom the throne has been tendered declines its acceptance unless the offer be sanctioned by the suffrages of the people. In either event, therefore, we may confidently expect the continuance of those peaceful relations which have been maintained on the frontier, and even a large development of the commerce already existing to the mutual advantage of the two countries.

It has been found necessary since your adjournment to take action on the subject of certain foreign consuls within the Confederacy. The nature of this action and the reasons on which it was based are so fully exhibited in the correspondence of the State Department, which is transmitted to you, that no additional comment is required.

In connection with this subject of our relations with foreign countries, it is deemed opportune to communicate my views in reference to the treaties made by the Government of the United States at a date anterior to our separation, and which were consequently binding on us as well as on foreign powers when the separation took effect. It was partly with a view to entering into such arrangements as the change in our Government had made necessary that we felt it our duty to send commissioners abroad for the purpose of entering into the negotiations proper to fix the relative rights and obligations of the parties to those treaties. As this tender on our part has been declined; as foreign nations have refused us the benefit of the treaties to which we were parties, they certainly have ceased to be binding on us, and in my opinion, our relations with European nations are, therefore, now controlled exclusively by the general rules of the law of nations. It is proper to add that these remarks are intended to apply solely to treaty obligations toward foreign governments, and have no reference to rights of individuals.

FINANCES.

The state of the public finances is such as to demand your earliest and most earnest attention. I need hardly say that a prompt and efficacious remedy for the present condition of the currency is necessary to the successful performance of the functions of government. Fortunately, the resources of our country are so ample and the spirit of our people so devoted to its cause that they are ready to make any necessary contribution. Relief is thus entirely within our reach if we have the wisdom to legislate in such manner as to render available the means at our disposal.

At the commencement of the war we were far from anticipating the magnitude and duration of the struggle in which we were engaged. The most sagacious foresight could not have predicted that the passions of the Northern people would lead them blindly to the sacrifice of life, treasure, and liberty in so vain a hope as that of subjugating thirteen independent States inhabited by many millions of people whose birthright of freedom is dearer to them than life. A long exemption from direct taxation by the General Government had created an aversion to its raising revenue by any other means than by duties on imports, and it was supposed that these duties would be ample for current peace expenditure, while the means for conducting the war could be raised almost exclusively by the use of the public credit.

The first action of the Provisional Congress was therefore confined to passing a tariff law and to raising a sum of \$15,000,000 by loan, with a pledge of a small export duty on cotton to provide for the redemption of the debt.

At its second session war was declared to exist between the Confederacy and the United States, and provision was made for the issue of \$20,000,000 in Treasury notes, and for borrowing \$30,000,000 on bonds. The tariff was revised and the preparatory measures taken to enable the Congress to levy internal taxation at its succeeding session. These laws were passed in May, and the States of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas having joined the Confederacy, the Congress adjourned to meet in the city of Richmond in the following month of July.

Prior to the assembling of your predecessors in Richmond at their third session, near the end of July, 1861, the President of the United States had developed in his message the purpose "to make the contest a short and decisive one," and had called on Congress for 400,000 men and \$400,000,000. The Congress had exceeded the Executive recommendation and had authorized the levy of half a million of volunteers, besides largely increasing the regular land and naval forces of the United States. The necessity thus first became urgent that a financial scheme should be

devised on a basis sufficiently large for the vast proportions of the contest with which we were threatened. Knowing that the struggle, instead of being "short and decisive," would be indefinite in duration, and could only end when the United States should awaken from their delusion of conquest, a permanent system was required, fully adapted to the great exigencies before us.

The plan devised by Congress at that time was based on the theory of issuing Treasury notes convertible at the pleasure of the holder into 8 per cent bonds, the interest of which was to be payable in coin, and it was correctly assumed that any tendency to depreciation that might arise from overissue of the currency would be checked by the constant exercise of the holder's right to fund the notes at a liberal interest payable in specie. This system depended for success on the continued ability of Government to pay the interest in specie, and means were, therefore, provided for that purpose in the law authorizing the issues. An internal tax, termed a war tax, was levied, the proceeds of which, together with the revenue from imports, were deemed sufficient for the object designed. This scheme required for its operation that our commerce with foreign nations should not be suspended. It was not to be anticipated that such suspension would be permitted otherwise than by an effective blockade; and it was absurd to suppose that a blockade "sufficient really to prevent access" to our entire coast should be maintained.

We had the means, therefore (if neutral nations had not combined to aid our enemies by the sanction of an illegal prohibition on their commerce), to secure the receipt into the Treasury of coin sufficient to pay the interest on the bonds, and thus maintain the Treasury notes at rates nearly equal to par in specie. So long as the interest continued to be thus paid with the reserve of coin preexisting in our country, experience sustained the expectations of those who devised the system. Thus, on the first of the following December, coin had only reached a premium of about 20 per cent, although it had already become apparent that the commerce of the country was threatened with permanent suspension by reason of the conduct of neutral nations, and that the necessary result must be the exhaustion of our specie reserve. Wheat, in the beginning of the year 1862, was selling at \$1.30 per bushel, not exceeding, therefore, its average price in time of peace. The other agricultural products of the country were at similar moderate rates, thus indicating that there was no excess of circulation, and that the rate of premium on specie was heightened by the exceptional causes which tended to its exhaustion without the possibility of renewing the supply.

This review of the policy of your predecessors is given in justice to them, and it exhibits the condition of the finances at the date when the Permanent Government was organized.

In the meantime the popular aversion to internal taxation by the General Government had influenced the legislation of the several States, and in only three of them, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas, were the taxes actually collected from the people. The quotas devolving upon the remaining States had been raised by the issue of bonds and State treasury notes, and the public debt of the country was thus actually increased instead of being diminished by the taxation imposed by Congress.

Neither at the first nor second session of the present Congress were means provided by taxation for maintaining the Government, the legislation being confined to authorizing further sales of bonds and issues of Treasury notes. Although repeated efforts were made to frame a proper system of taxation, you were confronted with an obstacle which did not exist for your predecessors, and which created grave embarrassment in devising any scheme of taxation. About two-thirds of the entire taxable property of the Confederate States consist of lands and slaves. The general power of taxation vested in Congress by the Provisional Constitution (which was to be only temporary in its operation) was not restricted by any other condition than that "all duties, imposts, and excises should be uniform throughout the States of the Confederacy." But the Permanent Constitution, sanctioning the principle that taxation and representation ought to rest on the same basis, specially provides that "representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all slaves."

It was further ordered that a census should be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress, and that "no capitation or other direct tax shall be laid unless in proportion to the census or enumeration hereinbefore directed to be taken."

It is plain that under these provisions capitation and direct taxes must be levied in proportion to the census when made. It is also plain that the duty is imposed on Congress to provide for making a census prior to the 22d February, 1865. It may further be stated that, according to the received construction of the Constitution of the

United States (a construction acquiesced in for upward of sixty years), taxes on lands and slaves are direct taxes, and the conclusion seems necessarily to be that, in repeating, without modification, in our Constitution, this language of the Constitution of 1787, our convention intended to attach to it the meaning which had been sanctioned by long and uninterrupted acquiescence.

So long as there seemed to be a probability of being able to carry out these provisions of the Constitution in their entirety, and in conformity with the intentions of its authors, there was an obvious difficulty in framing any system of taxation. A law which should exempt from the burthen two-thirds of the property of the country would be as unfair to the owners of the remaining third as it would be inadequate to meet the requirements of the public service.

The urgency of the need was such, however, that, after very great embarrassment and more than three months of assiduous labor, you succeeded in framing the law of the 24th April, 1863, by which you sought to reach, so far as was practicable, every resource of the country except the capital invested in real estate and slaves, and by means of an income tax and a tax in kind on the produce of the soil, as well as by licenses on business occupations and professions, to command resources sufficient for the wants of the country. But a very large proportion of these resources could only be made available at the close of the present and the commencement of the ensuing year, while the intervening exigencies permitted no delay. In this state of affairs, superinduced almost unavoidably by the fortunes of the war in which we are engaged, the issues of Treasury notes have been increased until the currency in circulation amounts to more than \$600,000,000, or more than threefold the amount required by the business of the country.

I need not enlarge upon the evil effects of this condition of things. They are unfortunately but too apparent. In addition to the difficulty presented to the necessary operations of the Government and the efficient conduct of the war, the most deplorable of all its results is undoubtedly its corrupting influence on the morals of the people. The possession of large amounts of Treasury notes has naturally led to a desire for investment, and with a constantly increasing volume of currency there has been an equally constant increase of price in all objects of investment. This effect has stimulated purchase by the apparent certainty of profit, and a spirit of speculation has thus been fostered which has so debasing an influence and such ruinous consequences that it is our highest duty to remove the cause, and no measures directed to that end can be too prompt or too stringent.

Reverting to the constitutional provisions already cited, the question recurs whether it be possible to execute the duty of apportioning taxation in accordance with the census ordered to be made as a basis. So long as this appeared to be practicable, none can deny the propriety of your course in abstaining from the imposition of direct taxes till you could exercise the power in the precise mode pointed out by the terms of the fundamental law. But it is obvious that there are many duties imposed by the Constitution which depend for their fulfillment on the undisturbed possession of the territory within which they are to be performed. The same instrument which orders a census to be made in all the States imposes the duty on the Confederacy "to guarantee to every State a republican form of government." It enjoins on us "to protect each State from invasion," and while declaring that its great objects and purposes are "to establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," it confers the means and thereby imposes on us the paramount duty of effecting its intent by "laying and collecting taxes, duties, imposts, and excises necessary to pay the debts, provide for the common defense, and carry on the Government of the Confederate States."

None would pretend that the Constitution is violated because, by reason of the presence of hostile armies, we are unable to guarantee a republican form of government to those States or portions of States now temporarily held by the enemy, and as little justice would there be in imputing blame for the failure to make the census when that failure is attributable to causes not foreseen by the authors of the Constitution and beyond our control. The general intent of our constitutional charter is unquestionably that the property of the country is to be taxed in order to raise revenue for the common defense, and the special mode provided for levying this tax is impracticable from unforeseen causes. It is in my judgment our primary duty to execute the general intent expressed by the terms of the instrument which we have sworn to obey, and we can not excuse ourselves for the failure to fulfill this obligation on the ground that we are unable to perform it in the precise mode pointed out. Whenever it shall be possible to execute our duty in all its parts we must do so in exact compliance with the whole letter and spirit of the Constitution. Until that period shall arrive we must execute so much of it as our condition renders practicable. Whenever the withdrawal of the enemy shall place it in our power to make a census and apportionment of direct taxes, any other mode of

levying them will be contrary to the will of the lawgiver and incompatible with our obligation to obey that will; until that period the alternative left is to obey the paramount precept and to execute it according to the only other rule provided, which is to "make the tax uniform throughout the Confederate States."

The considerations just presented are greatly enforced by the reflection that any attempt to apportion taxes among States, some of which are wholly or partially in the occupation of hostile forces, would subvert the whole intention of the framers of the Constitution, and be productive of the most revolting injustice, instead of that just correlation between taxation and representation which it was their purpose to secure. With large portions of some of the States occupied by the enemy, what justice would there be in imposing on the remainder the whole amount of the taxation of the entire State in proportion to its representation? What else would this be in effect than to increase the burthen of those who are the heaviest sufferers by the war, and to make our own inability to protect them from invasion, as we are required to do by the Constitution, the ground for adding to their losses by an attempted adherence to the letter in violation of the spirit of that instrument? No such purpose could have been entertained and no such result contemplated by the framers of the Constitution. It may add weight to these considerations if we reflect that, although the Constitution provided that it should go into operation with a representation temporarily distributed among the States, it expressly ordains, after providing for a census within three years, that this temporary distribution of representative power is to endure "until *such* enumeration shall be made." Would any one argue that, because the census can not be made within the fixed period, the Government must at the expiration of that period perish for want of a representative body? In any aspect in which the subject can be viewed I am led to the conclusion already announced, and which is understood to be in accordance with a vote taken in one or both Houses at your last session. I shall, therefore, until we are able to pursue the precise mode required by the Constitution, deem it my duty to approve any law levying the taxation which you are bound to impose for the defense of the country in any other practicable mode which shall distribute the burthen uniformly and impartially on the whole property of the people.

In your former legislation you have sought to avoid the increase in the volume of notes in circulation by offering inducements to voluntary funding. The measures adopted for that purpose have been but partially successful, and the evil has now reached such a magnitude as to permit no other remedy than the compulsory reduction of the currency to the amount required by the business of the country. This reduction should be accompanied by a pledge that under no stress of circumstances will that amount be exceeded. No possible mode of using the credit of the Government can be so disastrous as one which disturbs the basis of all exchanges, renders impossible all calculations of future values, augments, in constantly increasing proportions, the price of all commodities, and so depreciates all fixed wages, salaries, and incomes as to render them inadequate to bare subsistence. If to these be added the still more fatal influence on the morals and character of the people, to which I have already adverted, I am persuaded you will concur in the conclusion that an inflexible adherence to a limitation of the currency at a fixed sum is an indispensable element of any system of finance now to be adopted.

The holders of the currency now outstanding can only be protected in the recovery of their just claims by substituting for their notes some other security. If the currency is not greatly and promptly reduced the present scale of inflated prices will not only continue to exist, but by the very fact of the large amounts thus made requisite in the conduct of the war those prices will reach rates still more extravagant, and the whole system will fall under its own weight, thus rendering the redemption of the debt impossible and destroying its whole value in the hands of the holder. If, on the contrary, a funded debt, with interest secured by adequate taxation, can be substituted for the outstanding currency, its entire amount will be made available to the holder, and the Government will be in a condition enabling it, beyond the reach of any probable contingency, to prosecute the war to a successful issue. It is, therefore, demanded, as well by the interest of the creditor as of the country at large, that the evidences of the public debt now outstanding in the shape of Treasury notes be converted into bonds bearing adequate interest, with a provision for taxation sufficient to insure punctual payment and final redemption of the whole debt.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury presents the outlines of a system which, in conjunction with existing legislation, is intended to secure the several objects of a reduction of the circulation within fixed, reasonable limits; of providing for the future wants of the Government; of furnishing security for the punctual payment of interest and final extinction of the principal of the public debt, and of placing the whole business of the country on a basis as near a specie standard as is possible during the continuance of the war. I earnestly recommend it to your consideration,

and that no delay be permitted to intervene before your action on this vital subject. I trust that it will be suffered to engross your attention until you shall have disposed of it in the manner best adapted to attain the important results which your country anticipates from your legislation.

It may be added that, in considering this subject, the people ought steadily to keep in view that the Government, in contracting debt, is but their agent; that its debt is their debt. As the currency is held exclusively by ourselves, it is obvious that, if each person held Treasury notes in exact proportion to the value of his whole means, each would in fact owe himself the amount of the notes held by him, and were it possible to distribute the currency among the people in this exact proportion, a tax levied on the currency alone, to an amount sufficient to reduce it to proper limits, would afford the best of all remedies. Under such circumstances the notes remaining in the hands of each holder, after the payment of his tax, would be worth quite as much as the whole sum previously held, for it would purchase at least an equal amount of commodities. This result can not be perfectly attained by any device of legislation, but it can be approximated by taxation. A tax on all values has for its effect not only to impose a due share of the burthen on the note holder, but to force those who have few or none of the notes to part with a share of their possessions to those who hold the notes in excess, in order to obtain the means of satisfying the demands of the tax gatherer. This is the only mode by which it is practicable to make all contribute as equally as possible in the burthen which all are bound to share, and it is for this reason that taxation adequate to the public exigencies, under our present circumstances, must be the basis of any funding system or other remedy for restoring stability to our finances.

THE ARMY.

To the report of the Secretary of War you are referred for details relative to the condition of the Army and the measures of legislation required for maintaining its efficiency, recruiting its numbers, and furnishing the supplies necessary for its support.

Though we have lost many of the best of our soldiers and most patriotic of our citizens (the sad but unavoidable result of the battles and toils of such a campaign as that which will render the year 1863 ever memorable in our annals), the Army is believed to be in all respects in better condition than at any previous period of the war. Our gallant defenders, now veterans, familiar with danger, hardened by exposure, and confident in themselves and their officers, endure privations with cheerful fortitude and welcome battle with alacrity. The officers, by experience in field service and the action of examining boards in relieving the incompetent, are now greatly more efficient than at the commencement of the war. The assertion is believed to be fully justified that, regarded as a whole, for character, valor, efficiency, and patriotic devotion, our Army has not been equaled by any like number of troops in the history of war.

In view of the large conscription recently ordered by the enemy and their subsequent call for volunteers to be followed, if ineffectual, by a still further draft, we are admonished that no effort must be spared to add largely to our effective force as promptly as possible. The sources of supply are to be found by restoring to the Army all who are improperly absent, putting an end to substitution, modifying the exemption law, restricting details, and placing in the ranks such of the able-bodied men now employed as wagoners, nurses, cooks, and other employees as are doing service for which the negroes may be found competent.

The act of 16th April, 1862, provides "that persons not liable for duty may be received as substitutes for those who are, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War." The policy of granting this privilege has not been sustained by experience. Not only has the numerical strength of the Army been seriously impaired by the frequent desertions for which substitutes have become notorious, but dissatisfaction has been excited among those who have been unable or unwilling to avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of avoiding the military service of their country.

I fully concur in the opinion expressed by the Secretary that there is no ground for the objection that a new provision, to include those who furnished substitutes under the former call, would be a breach of contract. To accept a substitute was to confer a privilege, not to enter into a contract, and whenever the substitute is rendered liable to conscription it would seem to follow that the principal whose place he had taken should respond for him, as the Government had received no consideration for his exemption. Where, however, the new provision of law would fail to embrace a substitute now in the ranks, there appears, if the principal should again be conscribed, to be an equitable ground for compensation to the conscript, who then would have added to the service a soldier not otherwise liable to enrollment.

On the subject of exemptions it is believed that abuses can not be checked unless the system is placed on a basis entirely different from that now provided by law. The object of your legislation has been not to confer privileges on classes, but to exonerate from military duty such number of persons skilled in the various trades, professions, and mechanical pursuits as could render more valuable service to their country by laboring in their present occupation than by going into the ranks of the Army. The policy is unquestionable, but the result would, it is thought, be better obtained by enrolling all such persons and allowing details to be made of the number necessary to meet the wants of the country. Considerable numbers are believed to be now exempted from the military service who are not needful to the public in their civil vocation.

Certain duties are now performed throughout the country by details from the Army which could be as well executed by persons above the present conscript age. An extension of the limit, so as to embrace persons over 45 years and physically fit for service in guarding posts, railroads, and bridges, in apprehending deserters, and, where practicable, assuming the place of younger men detailed for duty with the miter, ordnance, commissary, and quartermaster's bureaus of the War Department, would, it is hoped, add largely to the effective force in the field without an undue burthen on the population.

If to the above measures be added a law to enlarge the policy of the act of the 21st April, 1862, so as to enable the Department to replace not only enlisted cooks, but wagoners and other employees in the Army, by negroes, it is hoped that the ranks of the Army will be so strengthened for the ensuing campaign as to put at defiance the utmost efforts of the enemy.

In order to maintain unimpaired the existing organization of the Army until the close of the war, your legislation contemplated a frequent supply of recruits, and it was expected that before the expiration of the three years for which the men were enrolled under act of 16th April, 1862, the majority of men in each company would consist of those who joined it at different dates subsequent to the original muster of the company into service, and that the discharge of those who had completed their term would at no time be sufficient to leave the company with a less number than is required to enable it to retain its organization. The difficulty of obtaining recruits from certain localities and the large number of exemptions from military service granted by different laws have prevented sufficient accessions in many of the companies to preserve their organizations after the discharge of the original members. The advantage of retaining tried and well-approved officers and of mingling recruits with experienced soldiers is so obvious and the policy of such a course is so clearly indicated that it is not deemed necessary to point out the evil consequences which would result from the destruction of the old organizations or to dwell upon the benefits to be secured from filling up the veteran companies as long before the discharge of the earlier members as may be possible. In the cases where it may be found impracticable to maintain regiments in sufficient strength to justify the retention of the present organization, economy and efficiency would be promoted by consolidation and reorganization. This would involve the necessity of disbanding a part of the officers and making regulations for securing the most judicious selection of those who are retained, while least wounding the feelings of those who are discharged.

Experience has shown the necessity for further legislation in relation to the horses of the cavalry. Many men lose their horses by casualties of service which are not included in the provisions made to compensate the owner for the loss, and it may thus not unfrequently happen that the most efficient troopers, without fault of their own—indeed, it may be because of their zeal and activity—are lost to the cavalry service.

It would also seem proper that the Government should have complete control over every horse mustered into service, with the limitation that the owner should not be deprived of his horse except upon due compensation being made therefor. Otherwise, mounted men may not keep horses fit for the service; and the question whether they should serve mounted or on foot would depend not upon the qualifications of the men, but upon the fact of their having horses.

Some provision is deemed requisite to correct the evils arising from the long-continued absence of commissioned officers. Where it is without sufficient cause, it would seem but just that the commission should be thereby vacated. Where it results from capture by the enemy, which, under their barbarous refusal to exchange prisoners of war, may be regarded as absence for an indefinite time, there is a necessity to supply their places in their respective commands. This might be done by temporary appointments to endure only until the return of the officers regularly commissioned. Where it results from permanent disability incurred in the line of their duty, it would be proper to retire them and fill the vacancies according to established mode. I would also suggest the organization of an invalid corps, and that the retired

officers be transferred to it. Such a corps, it is thought, could be made useful in various employments, for which efficient officers and troops are now detached.

An organization of the general staff of the Army would be highly conducive to the efficiency of that most important branch of the service. The plan adopted for the military establishment furnishes a model for the staff of the Provisional Army, if it be deemed advisable to retain the distinction, but I recommend to your consideration the propriety of abolishing it, and providing for the organization of the several staff corps in such number and with such rank as will meet all the wants of the service. To secure the requisite ability for the more important positions it will be necessary to provide for officers of higher rank than is now authorized for these corps. To give to the officers the proper relation and cointelligence in their respective corps, and to preserve in the chief of each the influence and control over his subordinates, there should be no gradation on the basis of the rank of the general with whom they might be serving by appointment. To the personal staff of a general it would seem proper to give a grade corresponding with his rank, and the number might be fixed to correspond with his command. To avoid the consequence of discharge upon a change of duty the variable portion of the personal staff might be taken from the line of the Army and allowed to retain their line commissions.

The disordered condition of the currency, to which I have already alluded, has imposed on the Government a system of supplying the wants of the Army, which is so unequal in its operation, vexatious to the producer, injurious to the industrial interest, and productive of such discontent among the people, as only to be justified by the existence of an absolute necessity. The report of the Secretary on this point establishes conclusively that the necessity which has forced the bureaus of supply to provide for the Army by impressment has resulted from the impossibility of purchase by contract or in the open market, except at such rapidly increased rates as would have rendered the appropriations inadequate to the wants of the Army. Indeed, it is believed that the temptation to hoard supplies for the higher prices which could be anticipated with certainty has been checked mainly by the fear of the operation of the impressment law, and that commodities have been offered in the markets principally to escape impressment and obtain higher rates than those fixed by appraisement. The complaints against this vicious system have been well founded, but the true cause of the evil has been misapprehended. The remedy is to be found not in a change of the impressment law, but in the restoration of the currency to such a basis as will enable the Department to purchase necessary supplies in the open market, and thus render impressment a rare and exceptional process.

The same remedy will effect the result universally desired, of an augmentation of the pay of the Army. The proposals made at your previous sessions, to increase the pay of the soldier by an additional amount of Treasury notes, would have conferred little benefit on him, but a radical reform of the currency will restore the pay to a value approximating that which it originally had, and materially improve his condition.

The reports from the Ordnance and Mining Bureaus are very gratifying, and the extension of our means of supply of arms and munitions of war from our home resources has been such as to insure our ability soon to become mainly, if not entirely, independent of supplies from foreign countries. The establishments for the casting of guns and projectiles, for the manufacture of small arms and of gunpowder, for the supply of niter from artificial niter beds, and mining operations generally, have been so distributed through the country as to place our resources beyond the reach of partial disasters.

The recommendations of the Secretary of War on other points are minutely detailed in his report, which is submitted to you, and extending, as they do, to almost every branch of the service, merit careful consideration.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

I regret to inform you that the enemy have returned to the barbarous policy with which they inaugurated the war, and that the exchange of prisoners has been for some time suspended. The correspondence of the commissioners of exchange is submitted to you by the Secretary of War, and it has already been published for the information of all now suffering useless imprisonment. The conduct of the authorities of the United States has been consistently perfidious on this subject. An agreement for exchange in the incipency of the war had just been concluded when the fall of Fort Donelson reversed the previous state of things and gave them an excess of prisoners. The agreement was immediately repudiated by them, and so remained till the fortune of war again placed us in possession of the larger number. A new cartel was then made, and under it, for many months, we restored to them many thousands of prisoners in excess of those whom they held for exchange, and encamp-

ments of the surplus paroled prisoners delivered up by us were established in the United States, where the men were able to receive the comforts and solace of constant communication with their homes and families. In July last the fortune of war again favored the enemy, and they were enabled to exchange for duty the men previously delivered to them, against those captured and paroled at Vicksburg and Port Hudson. The prisoners taken at Gettysburg, however, remained in their hands, and should have been at once returned to our lines on parole, to await exchange. Instead of executing a duty imposed by the plainest dictates of justice and good faith, pretexts were instantly sought for holding them in permanent captivity. General orders rapidly succeeded each other from the bureaus at Washington, placing new constructions on an agreement which had given rise to no dispute while we retained the advantage in the number of prisoners. With a disregard of honorable obligations almost unexampled, the enemy did not hesitate, in addition to retaining the prisoners captured by them, to declare null the paroles given by the prisoners captured by us in the same series of engagements and liberated on condition of not again serving until exchanged. They have since openly insisted on treating the paroles given by their own soldiers as invalid, and those of our soldiers, given under precisely similar circumstances, as binding. A succession of similar unjust pretensions has been set up in a correspondence tediously prolonged and every device employed to cover the disregard of an obligation which, between belligerent nations, is only to be enforced by a sense of honor.

No further comment is needed on this subject, but it may be permitted to direct your special attention to the close of the correspondence submitted to you, from which you will perceive that the final proposal made by the enemy, in settlement of all disputes under the cartel, is that we should liberate all prisoners held by us, without the offer to release from captivity any of those held by them.

In the meantime a systematic and concerted effort has been made to quiet the complaints in the United States of those relatives and friends of the prisoners in our hands who are unable to understand why the cartel is not executed in their favor, by the groundless assertion that we are the parties who refuse compliance. Attempts are also made to shield themselves from the execration excited by their own odious treatment of our officers and soldiers now captive in their hands, by misstatements such as that the prisoners held by us are deprived of food. To this last accusation the conclusive answer has been made, that, in accordance with our law and the general orders of the Department, the rations of the prisoners are precisely the same, in quantity and quality, as those served out to our own gallant soldiers in the field, and which have been found sufficient to support them in their arduous campaign, while it is not pretended by the enemy that they treat prisoners by the same generous rule. By an indulgence, perhaps unprecedented, we have even allowed the prisoners in our hands to be supplied by their friends at home with comforts not enjoyed by the men who captured them in battle. In contrast to this treatment, the most revolting inhumanity has characterized the conduct of the United States toward prisoners held by them. One prominent fact, which admits no denial nor palliation, must suffice as a test. The officers of our Army, natives of southern and semitropical climates, and unprepared for the cold of a northern winter, have been conveyed for imprisonment, during the rigors of the present season, to the most northern and exposed situation that could be selected by the enemy. There, beyond the reach of comforts, and often even of news from home and family, exposed to the piercing cold of the northern lakes, they are held by men who can not be ignorant of, even if they do not design, the probable result. How many of our unfortunate friends and comrades, who have passed unscathed through numerous battles, will perish on Johnson's Island, under the cruel trial to which they are subjected, none but the Omniscient can foretell. That they will endure this barbarous treatment with the same stern fortitude that they have ever evinced in their country's service we can not doubt, but who can be found to believe the assertion that it is our refusal to execute the cartel, and not the malignity of the foe, which has caused the infliction of such intolerable cruelty on our own loved and honored defenders?

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT.

Regular and punctual communication with the Trans-Mississippi is so obstructed as to render difficult a compliance with much of the legislation vesting authority in the executive branch of the Government. To supply vacancies in office, to exercise discretion on certain matters connected with the military organizations, to control the distribution of the funds collected from taxation or remitted from the Treasury, to carry on the operations of the Post-Office Department, and other like duties, require, under the Constitution and existing laws, the action of the President and heads of Departments. The necessities of the military service frequently forbid

delay, and some legislation is required providing for the exercise of temporary authority until regular action can be had at the seat of government. I would suggest, especially in the Post-Office Department, that an assistant be provided for the States beyond the Mississippi, with authority in the head of that Department to vest in this assistant all such powers now exercised by the Postmaster-General as may be requisite for provisional control of the funds of the Department in those States, and their application to the payment of mail contractors, for superintendence of the local post-offices and the contracts for carrying the mail, for the temporary employment of proper persons to fulfill the duties of postmasters and contractors in urgent cases until appointments can be made, and for other like purposes. Without some legislative provision on the subject there is serious risk of the destruction of the mail service, by reason of the delays and hardships suffered by contractors under the present system, which requires constant reference to Richmond of their accounts, as well as of the returns of the local postmasters, before they can receive payment for services rendered. Like provision is also necessary in the Treasury Department, while for military affairs it would seem to be sufficient to authorize the President and Secretary of War to delegate to the commanding general so much of the discretionary powers vested in them by law as the exigencies of the service shall require.

NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy gives in detail the operations of that Department since January last, embracing information of the disposition and employment of the vessels, officers, and men, and the construction of vessels at Richmond, Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, Mobile, Selma, and on the rivers Roanoke, Xeuse, Pedee, Chattahoochee, and Tombigbee, the accumulation of ship timber and supplies, and the manufacture of ordnance, ordnance stores, and equipments. The foundries and workshops have been greatly improved, and their capacity to supply all demands for heavy ordnance for coast and harbor defenses is only limited by our deficiency in the requisite skilled labor. The want of such labor and of seamen seriously affects the operations of the Department.

The skill, courage, and activity of our cruisers at sea can not be too highly commended. They have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy without suffering a single disaster, and have seriously damaged the shipping interests of the United States by compelling their foreign commerce to seek the protection of neutral flags.

Your attention is invited to the suggestions of the report on the subjects of supplying seamen for the service and of the provisions of the law in relation to the volunteer navy.

POST-OFFICE.

The Postmaster-General reports the receipts of that Department for the fiscal year ending the 30th June last to have been \$3,337,853.01, and the expenditures for the same period, \$2,662,804.67. The statement thus exhibits an excess of receipts amounting to \$675,048.44, instead of a deficiency of more than a million of dollars, as was the case in the preceding fiscal year. It is gratifying to perceive that the Department has thus been made self-sustaining in accordance with sound principle, and with the express requirement of the Constitution that its expenses should be paid out of its own revenues after the 1st March, 1863.

The report gives a full and satisfactory account of the operations of the Post-Office Department for the last year, and explains the measures adopted for giving more certainty and regularity to the service in the States beyond the Mississippi, and on which reliance is placed for obviating the difficulties heretofore encountered in that service.

The settlement of the accounts of the Department is greatly delayed by reason of the inability of the First Auditor to perform all the duties now imposed on him by law. The accounts of the Departments of State, of the Treasury, of the Navy, and of Justice are all supervised by that officer, and more than suffice to occupy his whole time. The necessity for a third auditor to examine and settle the accounts of a Department so extensive as that of the Post-Office appears urgent, and his recommendation on that subject meets my concurrence.

CONDUCT OF ENEMY.

I can not close this message without again adverting to the savage ferocity which still marks the conduct of the enemy in the prosecution of the war. After their repulse from the defenses before Charleston they first sought revenge by an abortive attempt to destroy the city with an incendiary composition, thrown by improved

artillery, from a distance of four miles. Failing in this, they changed their missiles, but fortunately have thus far succeeded only in killing two women in the city. Their commanders—Butler, McNeil, and Turchin—whose horrible barbarities have made their names widely notorious and everywhere execrable, are still honored and cherished by the authorities at Washington. The first named, after having been withdrawn from the scenes of his cruelties against women and prisoners of war, in reluctant concession to the demands of outraged humanity in Europe, has just been put in a new command at Norfolk, where helpless women and children are again placed at his mercy.

Nor has less unrelenting warfare been waged by these pretended friends of human rights and liberties against the unfortunate negroes. Wherever the enemy have been able to gain access they have forced into the ranks of their army every able-bodied man that they could seize, and have either left the aged, the women, and the children to perish by starvation or have gathered them into camps where they have been wasted by a frightful mortality. Without clothing or shelter, often without food, incapable, without supervision, of taking the most ordinary precautions against disease, these helpless dependents, accustomed to have their wants supplied by the foresight of their masters, are being rapidly exterminated wherever brought in contact with the invaders. By the Northern man, on whose deep-rooted prejudices no kindly restraining influence is exercised, they are treated with aversion and neglect. There is little hazard in predicting that, in all localities where the enemy have gained a temporary foothold, the negroes, who under our care increased sixfold in number since their importation into the colonies by Great Britain, will have been reduced by mortality during the war to not more than one-half their previous number.

Information on this subject is derived not only from our own observation and from the reports of the negroes who succeeded in escaping from the enemy, but full confirmation is afforded by statements published in the Northern journals by humane persons engaged in making appeals to the charitable for aid in preventing the ravages of disease, exposure, and starvation among the negro women and children who are crowded into encampments.

The frontier of our country bears witness to the alacrity and efficiency with which the general orders of the enemy have been executed in the devastation of the farms, the destruction of the agricultural implements, the burning of the houses, and the plunder of everything movable. Its whole aspect is a comment on the ethics of the general order issued by the United States on the 24th April, 1863, comprising "instructions for the government of armies of the United States in the field," and of which the following is an example:

"Military necessity admits of all direct destruction of life or limb of *armed* enemies, and of other persons whose destruction is incidentally *unavoidable* in the armed contests of the war; it allows of the capturing of every armed enemy, and of every enemy of importance to the hostile government, or of peculiar danger to the captor; it allows of all destruction of property, and obstructions of the ways and channels of traffic, travel, or communication, and of all withholding of sustenance or means of life from the enemy; of the appropriation of whatever an enemy's country affords necessary for the subsistence and safety of the army, and of such deception as does not involve the breaking of good faith, either positively pledged regarding agreements entered into during the war, or supposed by the modern law of war to exist. Men who take up arms against one another in public war do not cease on this account to be moral beings, responsible to one another and to God."

The striking contrast to these teachings and practices presented by our army when invading Pennsylvania illustrates the moral character of our people. Though their forbearance may have been unmerited and unappreciated by the enemy, it was imposed by their own self-respect, which forbade their degenerating from Christian warriors into plundering ruffians, assailing the property, lives, and honor of helpless noncombatants. If their conduct, when thus contrasted with the inhuman practices of our foe, fail to command the respect and sympathy of civilized nations in our day, it can not fail to be recognized by their less deceived posterity.

The hope last year entertained of an early termination of the war has not been realized. Could carnage have satisfied the appetite of our enemy for the destruction of human life, or grief have appeased their wanton desire to inflict human suffering, there has been bloodshed enough on both sides, and two lands have been sufficiently darkened by the weeds of mourning to induce a disposition for peace.

If unanimity in a people could dispel delusion, it has been displayed too unmistakably not to have silenced the pretense that the Southern States were merely disturbed by a factious insurrection, and it must long since have been admitted that they were but exercising their reserved right to modify their own government in such manner as would best secure their own happiness. But these considerations have been powerless to allay the unchristian hate of those who, long accustomed to

draw large profits from a union with us, can not control the rage excited by the conviction that they have by their own folly destroyed the richest sources of their prosperity. They refuse even to listen to proposals for the only peace possible between us—a peace which, recognizing the impassable gulf which divides us, may leave the two people separately to recover from the injuries inflicted on both by the causeless war now waged against us. Having begun the war in direct violation of their Constitution, which forbade the attempt to coerce a State, they have been hardened by crime until they no longer attempt to veil their purpose to destroy the institutions and subvert the sovereignty and independence of these States. We now know that the only reliable hope for peace is in the vigor of our resistance, while the cessation of their hostility is only to be expected from the pressure of their necessities.

The patriotism of the people has proved equal to every sacrifice demanded by their country's need. We have been united as a people never were united under like circumstances before. God has blessed us with success disproportionate to our means, and, under His divine favor, our labors must at last be crowned with the reward due to men who have given all they possessed to the righteous defense of their inalienable rights, their homes, and their altars.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, *December 7, 1863.*

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the reading of the communication was dispensed with and it was ordered to be laid upon the table and printed.

On motion, it was ordered that the usual number of the President's message and accompanying documents and the communication from the Secretary of the Treasury be printed.

Mr. Lyons moved that 5,000 extra copies of the President's message be printed for the use of the members of the House.

The question being on suspending the rules,

It was decided in the affirmative, and the motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House went into Committee of the Whole, on the President's message and accompanying documents and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had the matter referred to them under consideration and that the committee had found itself without a quorum.

Mr. Conrad moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 8
 } Nays ----- 38 [40]

Yeas: Boyce, Conrad, Dargan, Garnett, Lyons, McDowell, Miller, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ayer, Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Machen, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, and Welsh.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Swan moved a call of the House.

The motion was agreed to.

The Clerk proceeded to call the roll:

When,

On motion of Mr. Foote, the call was dispensed with.

And on motion of Mr. Machen,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

THIRD DAY—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Jeter.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the amounts drawn from the Treasury by members of this House during the vacation; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on the President's message and accompanying documents and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Chilton,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., December 9, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of State, covering copies of his correspondence referred to in my message delivered yesterday, and I invite your attention to the reason he gives for withholding them until to-day.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the communication was ordered to be laid upon the table.

And on motion,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FOURTH DAY—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Moore.

Mr. Conrad, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House what quantity of cotton has been exported from the Confederate States since first January last; also the amount and value of the goods imported into the Confederate States within the same period, specifying as far as practicable the descriptions of the principal articles so imported.

On motion, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on the President's message and accompanying documents and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported.

through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the matter referred to them and had adopted two resolutions, which they submitted to the consideration of the House.

The resolutions were read as follows, viz:

Resolved, That so much of the President's message as relates to the currency, together with the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, be referred to a committee to be composed of one member from each State, with instructions to report as speedily as practicable such measures as in their judgment may be best calculated to improve the currency, with instructions further to report a bill providing for the laying and collecting a tax upon real and personal property according to the value of such property.

Resolved, That so much of the President's message and accompanying documents as relates to the Army be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; that so much as relates to foreign affairs be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs; that so much as relates to the Navy be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs; so much as relates to the Post-Office, to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the first resolution by striking out the words "one member from each State" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "seven members."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the resolution by striking out that part containing the instructions to the committee.

Mr. Garnett called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Boyce moved to amend by adding to the instructions as follows, viz:

and further to report a bill laying such additional taxes as the country can bear and may be deemed expedient.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend by striking out the instructions and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

with instructions to report measures for reducing the currency to proper limits and to provide ample means by taxation and otherwise to meet the annual expenses of the Government.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

The resolution as amended was adopted.

The second resolution of the committee was also adopted.

The House resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was the memorial of G. Tochman, praying brigadier's salary and commutation for three years be paid him, etc.

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foote introduced the following bills:

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent trading with the enemy;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to be entitled "An act providing for the alteration of the tenure of certain offices therein specified;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the repeal of the existing law authorizing substitutes;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A bill to be entitled "An act to increase the pay of the soldiers;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of recommending, respectfully but earnestly, to the President the withdrawal from foreign courts of all diplomatic agents heretofore sent to them, whose governments shall not, before the first day of February next, have recognized our national character, and the dismissal of all foreign consuls from the Confederate States who shall not, before said first day of February, have asked and received exequaturs from our own Government.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a select committee be instructed to inquire whether any deliberate violations of the constitutional right of the citizens "to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures" have occurred by the action of military officers or otherwise since the last session of this body, or whether persons have been seized outside the lines of our armies without a "warrant issued upon probable cause," and whether persons, upon vague suspicion merely, without the "presentment or indictment of a grand jury" in cases not arising in the land or naval forces or in the militia "in actual service," have been seized; whether any persons have been deprived of "life, liberty, or property without due process of law;" or whether in any case "private property has been taken for public use without just compensation;" and that said committee report the result of their investigations herein at the earliest practicable period, with a view to the adoption of all needful legislation for the full protection of these sacred and inalienable rights.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz:	{ Yeas -----	47
	{ Nays -----	7

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Jones, Lyons, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ayer, Conrow, Freeman, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Machen, and McLean.

So the resolution was adopted.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a joint resolution of the following title:

S. 16. Joint resolution in relation to the public printing;

In which I am directed to invite the concurrence of this House.

The Speaker laid before the House a joint resolution of the Senate to be entitled

S. 16. Joint resolution in relation to the public printing; which was read first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Menees, the rule was suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee, and it having been read as follows, viz:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States of America, That, in lieu of the compensation now allowed by law to the Public Printer, he shall receive, until other-

wise provided, for all printing ordered by either House of Congress, such compensation as the Committees on Printing of the two Houses may determine to be equitable,

Mr. Conrad moved to amend by inserting after the word "Congress" the words "during the present session."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Menees moved to amend by adding the words "subject to the ratification of the two Houses of Congress."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Preston moved to amend the joint resolution by substituting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That the Committee on Printing be authorized to issue proposals for the public printing, and award the contract to the lowest bidder who shall execute proper guaranties for the performance of the work.

Mr. Lyons moved to lay the whole subject on the table.

The motion was lost.

The question being on the adoption of the substitute proposed by Mr. Preston,

Mr. Hanly demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 40
Nays----- 20

Yeas: Ashe, Ayer, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Burnett, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boyce, Chambliss, Foote, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Machen, Menees, Miles, Read, Russell, Sexton, Swan, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the substitute was adopted.

Mr. Swan moved to refer the joint resolution to the Committee on Printing.

The motion was lost.

The joint resolution was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Baldwin asked to be excused from further service on the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House refused to excuse him.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the existing laws on the subject of impressment as to secure to the owner of the property impressed in all cases the actual value of said property at the time and place of impressment.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays: which were not ordered, and the resolution was lost.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the law now existing in regard to prisoners of war of the African race, in order to distinguish those who enlisted in the service of the United States as freemen and those who were slaves according to the laws of the Confederate States at the time of their enlistment, and who, therefore, when they shall fall into our hands by the chances of war, are subject, according to the recognized principles of international law, to be returned at once to their original condition of servitude.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend by inserting after the word "freemen" the words "in the United States."

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Foote offered a resolution on the currency; which was referred to the Committee on the Currency, without being read, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting suitable legislation for the purpose of compelling all quartermasters, employees in the Commissary Department, and all other official persons intrusted with the safe-keeping and disbursement of public money, to deliver in, on oath, a memorandum of all the property they possessed, or owned, at the time of coming into office, all that they now own or possess, and all they may have acquired by means altogether distinct from and independent of their official position, to the end that all the overplus which can not be legitimately accounted for may be seized upon by the Government, and constitute a fund for increasing the pay of our gallant soldiery and providing for those disabled in war.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 47
 } Nays ----- 9

Yeas: Ashe, Ayer, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, De Jarnette, Foote, Freeman, Funston, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Machen, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Hanly, Heiskell, Jones, Lyons, and McLean.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote by which the report of the Secretary of the Navy was ordered to be printed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Captain Odum, Lieutenant Dowling, and the men under their command; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gray offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the appointment of an assistant secretary of the Treasury and other fiscal officers [for the?] proper performance of the functions of the Treasury Department in the States and Territories west of the Mississippi River. Also, that the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads make similar inquiry in reference to the Post-Office Department.

Mr. Gray introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act allowing rations to officers of the Army below the grade of brigadier-general;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to an act to raise money for the support of the Government, and to provide for the

defense of the Confederate States of America," adopted February 28, 1861; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Wilcox presented the memorial of William Thaxton, praying a discontinuance of the mail route from Fredericksburg, by the way of Llano, Llano County, Tex., to San Saba, and the establishment of a weekly mail route from Burnet to San Saba, via Llano; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, without being read.

Mr. Sexton presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Trinity County, Tex., praying that the notes of the Confederate States Treasury now being issued be made a legal tender; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, without being read.

Mr. Staples presented the memorial of Henry Miller, of Greenbrier County, Va., asking compensation for property destroyed by Confederate forces at the battle of White Sulphur; which was referred to the Committee on Claims, without being read.

Mr. Staples offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire whether any and what additional legislation is necessary to prevent illegal and arbitrary impressments of property by the agents of the Government.

Mr. Wilcox presented the memorial of Samuel G. Christian, praying the establishment of sundry mail routes in the State of Texas; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Baldwin presented sundry communications, proposing plan of financial relief, from Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, of Virginia; which was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Baldwin introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide payment for slaves impressed under State laws and lost in the public service;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the act to establish the judicial courts of the Confederate States of America, approved March sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, as authorizes the judge of each district to appoint the times and places of holding the courts in his district.

Mr. Baldwin also offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to this House—

1. A list of the officers of artillery in the Provisional Army, for the performance of ordnance duties, appointed since the sixteenth day of September, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, showing the rank of each and the duty to which he is assigned.
2. The "roll of merit" reported by the board of officers constituted by General Orders, numbered sixty-eight, of eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and referred to in General Orders, numbered twelve, of eighteen hundred and sixty-three, as "the general roll of merit, established by the examiners."

Mr. Holcombe offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the committee to which was referred so much of the President's message as relates to the subject of currency be instructed to inquire into the expediency of recommending to the different banks within the Confederate States a loan of their respective reserves of specie to the Confederate Government.

Mr. Johnston offered the following resolution: which was agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Claims inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the payment of the claim of Lewis A. Phelps and Jefferson Broadwater for property destroyed by order of General William E. Jones.

Mr. Lyons introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent the further issue of Treasury notes and to fund those now in circulation;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Russell moved that his resolution on the currency, offered this morning and withdrawn, be referred to the Committee on the Currency and printed.

The motion was agreed to, and it was ordered that all the resolutions, bills, propositions, etc., referred to said committee be printed.

Mr. Preston presented the memorial of Mary Clark, praying compensation for slave impressed by State law and employed in the service of the Confederate States on the fortifications around Richmond, who died from disease contracted therein; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Boteler introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act providing compensation for horses unavoidably lost in the public service;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Read introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the payment of horses lost, captured, or killed in the Confederate States service;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Boteler presented the memorial of Allen C. Hammond, of Berkeley County, Va., praying Congress to authorize the repayment of certain funds invested by him in the Confederate "call loan" in 1862; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Goode presented the petition of Thomas E. Harris, of Second Virginia Cavalry, praying compensation for a horse lost in the military service; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Boudinot introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for filling vacancies of Delegates to Congress in certain Indian nations;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. Hanly moved that one of the Delegates from the Indian nations be requested to attend the sessions of the Committee on Indian Affairs. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to fund the Treasury notes;" which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on the Currency, and ordered to be printed.

Also, a bill to be entitled "An act to increase the force of the Army;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Clark offered the following resolution; which was agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the claims of deceased soldiers have been unnecessarily delayed in their payment, and that reform on this point is necessary and proper to the satisfaction of the country.

Mr. Gartrell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the special committee to which was referred so much of the President's message as relates to the finances inquire into the expediency of repealing all laws imposing a tithe tax upon the produce of the country.

Mr. Gartrell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit the reception of substitutes in the Army;"

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell also presented a memorial from Ransom C. Gaines, praying compensation for Confederate States Treasury notes destroyed by fire; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Read offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the propriety of introducing a bill allowing to all commissioned officers in the service rations agreeable to their respective rank.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill so regulating the running the blockade by vessels going out of our ports as shall insure a return for their cargoes in such articles as are required for the support of the Army and the defense of the country.

Mr. Machen offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency and necessity of supplying, through the Commissary Department, commissioned officers in the military service of the Government with rations, and that said committee report thereon by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Vest introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri;"

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Bell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for the election of Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States for the State of Missouri;"

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Ayer presented a memorial of Mrs. M. E. Parker, praying to be refunded the excess of a Confederate war tax improperly assessed; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House whether contractors for carrying the mails of the Confederate States, exempt from the performance of military duty in the service of the Confederate States, under the act of April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, have been retained in the Army and held subject to the performance of military duty since the passage of said act; and if so, upon what grounds it has been done.

Mr. Ayer offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That it be referred to the special committee to whom has been referred the subject of finance, to inquire and report, by bill or otherwise, on the expediency and propriety of abolishing the tax in kind and substituting in lieu thereof a money tax.

Mr. Simpson presented the petition of Robert Y. Jones, praying new issue of certain Treasury bonds in place of others consumed by fire; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Miles presented the memorial of Capt. Zimmerman Davis, Confederate States Army, praying increased compensation for horses killed in battle, or otherwise lost in service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Farrow presented the claim of W. H. Stribling against the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, for rations furnished to men and forage for horses in the Confederate States service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Farrow also presented the petition of Rev. J. C. White, praying to be refunded a portion of Confederate tax improperly exacted; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of conscribing all able-bodied male free negroes in the Confederate States, for the purpose of employing them on Government work and for the discharge of the duties of teamsters, cooks, etc., in the Army.

Mr. Currin offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Buildings request the legislature of Virginia to permit this House to cause a temporary hood or room to be erected over the south door of this chamber for the comfort and convenience of the members of this House.

Mr. Swan offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to this House the number of substitutes in the armies of the Confederate States and what portion of them is from foreign countries.

On motion of Mr. Dargan,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FIFTH DAY—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Leyburn.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President do cause to be communicated to this House, at as early a day as practicable, the names of all disbursing agents in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, of the public moneys, who have failed to render an account as required by law or the regulations of the department to which such officer or agent may belong. That the information thus sought be furnished in tabular form, showing the names of such officer or agent; the date of his last accounting; the amount of public money in his hands at such date; the amount which has since been placed in his hands for disbursement; the time next after his accounting when he was required by law or the regulations of his department to account; whether he has been dismissed from office or retained; and if retained, what steps have been taken to obtain an account, and what excuse, if any, exists for his failure to account.

Mr. Clopton presented the memorial of the Alabama Artillery Battalion, praying to be discharged, with the privilege of choosing their own regiments, or retained in the service, with the privilege of electing their own officers; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Clopton also presented the claim of Baker & Caswell for Johnson & Phillips, for thirty-nine hogsheads of sugar seized by the Confederate Government; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Hanly presented the claim of T. S. N. King, executor of W. F. Newsom, deceased, for property destroyed by the United States; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Hartridge introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act regulating the fees of marshals;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Gartrell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency and necessity of further and more efficient legislation to put in the Army all able-bodied men in the Quartermaster's, Commissary, hospitals, Niter Bureau, and all other departments of the Government, and supply their places by disabled officers and soldiers.

Mr. Perkins introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to raise a tax to support the Government;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Currency.

On motion of Mr. Bridgers, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Lander, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

Mr. McLean presented the memorial of the president and members of the literary board and the superintendent of the public schools of the State of North Carolina, praying that all persons engaged in printing and binding schoolbooks be exempted from military service; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles introduced the following bills:

A bill to be entitled "An act to allow commissioned officers of the Army rations and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A bill to be entitled "An act regulating tonnage duties;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

And a bill to be entitled "An act regulating the duties on imports;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Swan offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to this House the number of exempts in the Confederate States, the States in which they reside, and the reasons for the exemption from military service.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President of the Confederate States be requested to cause to be furnished to this House copies of the reports of military operations received since

the former call of this House for similar reports, and all such reports which may be received during the present session.

Mr. Foote offered the following preamble and resolutions; which were postponed until Wednesday next and ordered to be printed:

Whereas the Government of the United States has already called into the field nearly two millions of men, and has announced an intention to exert its entire military resources for our subjugation; and

Whereas, although the Government of the Confederate States has maintained a defense against the invader with less than one-fourth his numbers, the time has arrived when this Government must summon to the field its whole military strength to drive back the tide of war: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the meaning and intent of the act of April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, calling into the military service all residents not legally exempt between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five years, and the subsequent act extending the age to forty-five years, contemplated the performance of the civil functions of the Government by citizens not embraced within the ages enumerated and by others not capable of performing service in the field.

Resolved, That the provisions of the act of October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, did not contemplate the exemption of civilians of conscript age, subsequently appointed to perform clerical duty in the departments or elsewhere, or to act as assistant adjutant and inspector generals, or quartermasters and assistant quartermasters, or commissaries and assistant commissaries, or their agents and employees, if not actually engaged with the armies in the field; and therefore all such appointments ought to be revoked.

Resolved, That there is a sufficient number of capable and patriotic citizens not liable to military service, from age or from wounds, in the existing exigency of affairs to perform the civil functions of the Government; and that it is the dictate of duty and of patriotism for all capable of bearing arms, not being constrained by extreme necessity, to abandon official position and repair to the scene of danger and of honor.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution: which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House what number of men liable to conscription have been removed from the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and their places filled by disabled soldiers in pursuance of an order issued by the Adjutant-General to carry into effect a law on this subject passed by the Congress of the Confederate States.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 142. A bill to prevent the enlistment or enrollment of substitutes in the military service of the Confederate States, and to repeal all laws permitting or authorizing the same;

In which I am directed to invite the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire into the truth or falsehood of the allegation that the Yankee prisoners in our hands have not been adequately supplied with food, and report to this House as soon as practicable, to the end that the character of our Government may be effectually vindicated in the premises, and censure, if such be due, be visited upon those who deserve it; and also why our own soldiers have not been better provided with food.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the resolution by adding the following:

Resolved further, That the committee also inquire and report whether the same rations have been furnished prisoners captured from the enemy that have been furnished our own soldiers.

The amendment was agreed to, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five members shall be appointed who shall diligently inquire into the causes which led to the late disastrous defeat of our army at Chattanooga; whether such defeat was owing to a want of "valor" on the part of

our troops, or any particular portion thereof, or whether it was owing chiefly or altogether to other causes, in order that justice may be done to all concerned, and censure be bestowed upon all deserving it, whoever they may be.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained, and the resolution was not agreed to.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed whose duty it shall be to inquire diligently into the causes which led to the surrender of Vicksburg into the hands of the enemy, and report their proceedings herein as early as practicable, and that said committee have power to send for persons and papers, and to take depositions on oath, if found most convenient, and that a clerk be allowed them at a fair recompense for his services in attending upon said committee.

Mr. Gray moved to suspend the rules so as to allow general debate on the resolution.

The motion did not prevail.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained, and the resolution was disagreed to.

Mr. Foote also offered the following preamble and resolutions; which were adopted:

Whereas painful rumors have been for some time prevalent in relation to enormous corruptions alleged to exist in the Departments of the Quartermaster-General and Commissary-General, as well as touching various flagrant abuses of power charged to have been perpetrated and gross neglect of official duty asserted to have occurred: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire promptly and rigidly into all said matters, whether in the chief departments located in Richmond or in subordinate officials connected with said departments, located elsewhere, and report their proceedings herein to the House at as early a day as possible, to the end that suitable legislation may be adopted to prevent a recurrence of similar acts and for the bringing of all offenders herein to justice.

Resolved, That said committee have power to visit and examine said departments severally; have authority to examine witnesses and to send for persons and papers; that a clerk shall be allowed them, who shall receive a fair compensation for such services as he shall render herein.

Mr. Chambliss offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish to this House the number of officers and men, including the police and mounted guard, employed in executing the conscription law, distinguishing the number in each Congressional district.

Mr. Goode offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That fifty additional copies of the report of the Secretary of War be, and are hereby, ordered to be printed for the use of the War Department.

On motion of Mr. Goode, the rule was suspended requiring the resolution to be referred to a committee, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Goode offered the following resolution: which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service," approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, for enrolling for military service all able-bodied white male residents between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, and authorizing the detail of such as may be absolutely needed in other pursuits.

Mr. Boyce, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire and

report whether the comfort of our officers and men, prisoners in the hands of the enemy, can be promoted by any act of legislation.

Mr. Welsh, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be requested to inquire into the expediency of conscribing one hundred thousand male slaves, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, to be placed in the service of the Confederate States in the capacity of teamsters, cooks for our soldiers, waiters in hospitals, laborers on fortifications, and in such other capacity as they can be profitably employed.

Also, the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President, if in his opinion not in conflict with the public interest, be requested to transmit to this House the report of General Joseph E. Johnston, touching his operations in Mississippi during the months of May, June, and July, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States,' approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;"

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

The Speaker laid before the House a bill to be entitled

S. 142. An act to prevent the enlistment or enrollment of substitutes in the military service of the Confederate States, and to repeal all laws permitting or authorizing the same;
which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Gray, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, the orders given to and correspondence held with General Joseph E. Johnston during the months of May, June, and July, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, concerning his command and the operations in his department.

Mr. Burnett moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Boyce moved that when the House adjourn it adjourn until Monday next, at 12 o'clock.

Pending the consideration of which motion,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Curry,

Adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Conrow presented the memorial of John P. Halligan, the inventor of a submarine boat for the purpose of attaching torpedoes to the enemy's vessels, praying aid in the construction of such a boat, and that a committee be appointed to investigate the merits of his invention; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

And on motion,

The House resolved itself into open session.

SIXTH DAY—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Moore.

The Speaker appointed the following gentlemen as the special committee to whom was referred so much of the President's message as relates to the subject of the currency, together with the report of the Secretary of the Treasury:

Messrs. Boyce of South Carolina, Conrad of Louisiana, Jones of Tennessee, Baldwin of Virginia, Lyon of Alabama, Bridgers of North Carolina, and Gray of Texas.

And as the special committee to inquire into illegal arrests, etc.:

Messrs. Foote of Tennessee, Clopton of Alabama, Hartridge of Georgia, Ashe of North Carolina, and Funsten of Virginia.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers;'" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Clopton offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire—

1. Whether under the provisions of an act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, an impressing officer is authorized to offer to the owner of property designed to be impressed a price below the actual value, and upon the refusal of the owner to accept such offer, to proceed to impress said property without any further effort to agree upon the value thereof.

2. Whether a general commanding a department has the power under said act to authorize his subordinate officers to impress property beyond the limits of his department, without a general order from the Secretary of War, as provided in the fourth section of said act.

3. Whether the impressing officer is authorized under any circumstances to fix arbitrarily the quantity of provisions which each owner shall be permitted to retain for the support of himself and family, or whether the same must not in all cases be ascertained as provided in the seventh section of said act.

4. When the owner has two or more articles of the same kind of property and is authorized to retain one for the support of himself and family, whether the impressing officer has the right to elect which of said articles he will impress, and, if not, who has the power to decide.

5. Whether an impressing officer is or can be authorized under the provisions of said act to impress property for the benefit of contractors with the Government in order to enable them to fulfill their contracts.

6. Whether any and what further legislation is necessary upon the subject of impressments to protect the rights of owners of property and to prevent abuses by impressing officers.

Mr. Clopton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal an act entitled 'An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments by officers of the Army;'"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Lyon presented the memorial of sundry soldiers of the First Battalion of Alabama Artillery, asking authority, in the event their services shall be retained upon the expiration of their present term of enlistment, to reorganize their battalion, elect their officers, and to be allowed such privileges as are by law extended to other soldiers of the

Provisional Army; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish this House with the names of such persons in the Army as have been specially noticed by their commanding officers for gallantry in the field, and who have for such gallant conduct been promoted from the ranks, stating the positions to which they have been appointed.

Mr. Read introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the benefit of Henley's battalion of clerks;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Miles, a bill on the Calendar of last session, in relation to substitution, was taken up and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Boyce moved that the Special Committee on the Currency be increased by the addition of two members.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Simpson presented the petition of Julius P. Wright, praying compensation for taking the census of 1860 for the United States Government in Edgefield district, South Carolina; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

On motion of Mr. Simpson, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Farrow, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

Mr. Simpson offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Committee on the Military to inquire into the expediency of requiring all appointments in the various departments, where the duties are not of an actual character in the field, to be made from the following classes, viz: From disabled soldiers, from persons within the conscript age physically unable for field service, and from citizens over conscript age.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to cause to be prepared for this House a statement of the value of the taxable property of the Confederate States upon the basis and after the plan of the census of eighteen hundred and sixty, if he has a copy of it; and if not, then upon the basis and plan of the census of eighteen hundred and fifty, with such allowance for subsequent increase and loss as he may deem reasonable.

Mr. Perkins moved to reconsider the vote by which the report of the Secretary of War was ordered to be printed.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Foote,

The House adjourned until Monday, 12 o'clock m.

SEVENTH DAY—MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Duncan.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolutions; which were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation do proceed to completion with the matters of investigation referred to them and left unfinished at the adjournment of the last session, and that said committee have authority to employ a clerk to perform its clerical duties.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be requested to inquire of and report by bill such measures as will enable committees of this House to take proof by depositions in regard to matters referred to them for investigation.

Mr. Chilton presented the memorial of certain officers of Alabama regiments, praying relief for adjutants of said regiments; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, the memorial of Capt. Randolph Owen, of the Fifth Battalion of Alabama Artillery, praying compensation for lost guns; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to repeal certain clauses of an act to exempt certain persons from military service,' etc., approved October eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolutions; which were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be requested to confer with the Secretary of War upon the expediency of transferring the control and management of the provost and conscript duties to the governors of the respective States.

Resolved, That the Military Committee be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the exemption law as to place in the service all able-bodied men liable to military duty, and now engaged as conductors, guards, etc., upon the various railroads in the Confederacy, and placing in their stead disabled soldiers and men over forty-five years of age, and report by bill or otherwise.

The Speaker announced the appointment of the two additional members of the Special Committee on the Currency, viz:

Messrs. Johnston of Virginia and Pugh of Alabama.

Mr. Hanly offered the following resolution; which was read and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Resolved, First. That each Delegate from the several Indian nations with whom treaties have been made and concluded by the Confederate States of America shall have and be entitled to a seat upon the floor of this House, may propose and introduce measures being for the benefit of his particular nation, and be heard in respect and regard thereto, or other matters in which his nation may be particularly interested.

Second. That, furthermore, it shall be the duty of the Speaker of this House to appoint one Delegate from one of the Indian nations upon the Committee on Indian Affairs, and the Delegate so appointed shall have and possess all the rights and privileges of other members of such committee, except the right to vote on questions pending before such committee.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Mr. Boudinot corresponding member of the Committee on Indian Affairs, without the privilege of voting.

Mr. Hilton offered

A resolution containing a proposition on finance; which, without being read, was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Hartridge introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments,' approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Clark presented the memorial of the Georgia Relief and Hospital Association, praying such legislation as will insure the prompt payment of the claims of deceased soldiers against the Government; which, without being read, was referred to a special committee of five members to be appointed by the Chair.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 11, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering estimates of sums needed for the public service among the Indian tribes.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Swan offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire and report to this House what are now and what have been, during the twelve months past, the geographical limits of the department of which General Joseph E. Johnston has been the commanding general; that they further inquire and report whether by the orders and instructions given him while so commanding he was invested with plenary power to direct the operations of armies within that department.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Gray offered the following resolution; which, under the rule, was laid over for two days:

Resolved, That the rule adopted at the last session, limiting debate on resolutions before being referred to a committee to five minutes, for explanation by the mover, is hereby rescinded.

Mr. Graham offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That fifty copies of the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs be printed for the use of the Indian Bureau.

Mr. Graham moved that the rule be suspended requiring the resolution to be referred to a committee.

The motion was agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Mr. Wilcox presented the memorial of Thomas Rooke, collector of the war tax in the State of Texas, praying to be relieved from the payment of \$10,339.97 of said tax, lost on his way to pay the same over to the Government; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolutions; which were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the appointment of a veterinary surgeon, with the rank of captain, to each brigade of cavalry, the appointment to be made upon due examination before a board of at least three colonels of cavalry.

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of amending the law establishing a military court for each army corps, so as to authorize a similar court to commands of cavalry composed of two or more divisions.

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of so amending the law abolishing regimental commissaries as to except the cavalry regiments from it operation.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to cause the Journal of this House to be printed as speedily as practicable.

Mr. Chambliss offered a proposition in relation to the currency; which, without being read, was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution: which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Speaker of this House do invite General Robert E. Lee, Major-General Howell Cobb, and the Honorable Isham G. Harris, governor of Tennessee, to take seats within the bar of this House, as a testimonial of the great respect which this House entertains for them.

Mr. Russell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to permit the funding of certain Treasury notes not now fundable," which was read first and second times and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Also, a bill to be entitled "An act imposing a tax on Treasury notes;" which was read first and second times and referred to the same committee.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution: which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire whether the seventeenth section of the act of Congress approved January eleventh, eighteen hundred and twelve, providing punishment for procuring or enticing soldiers to desert, is in force in the Confederate States, and whether it does not require amendment so as to increase its efficiency.

Mr. Wilcox, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred joint resolutions of thanks to Captain Odum, Lieutenant Dowling, and the men under their command, reported back the same, with the recommendation that they do pass.

The joint resolutions were engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The Speaker laid before the House the communication from the President, covering estimates by the Secretary of the Treasury of sums required for the public service in the Indian tribes; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Conrow introduced

A joint resolution for the relief of Col. Charles H. Hawthorn; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House, on motion of Mr. Foote, then went into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Elliott,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

On motion of Mr. Foote, the diplomatic correspondence of the State Department referred to in the President's message of Tuesday last was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

And on motion,

The House resolved itself into open session.

EIGHTH DAY—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

Mr. Boyce moved that the Special Committee on the Currency have leave to sit during the sessions of the House.

Mr. Trippe moved to amend as follows, viz: That the Special Committee on the Currency be authorized and requested to sit during the sessions of the House.

The amendment was agreed to, and the motion prevailed.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body: which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have disagreed to the amendment of this House to the joint resolution of the Senate (S. 16) entitled "Joint resolution in relation to the public printing," ask a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Phelan, Mr. Burnett, and Mr. Hill the managers at the said conference on their part.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Baldwin, who had been called to the field by military necessity.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed the following members as the special committee on the claims of deceased soldiers against the Government, viz:

Messrs. Clark of Georgia, Singleton of Mississippi, Miller of Virginia, Simpson of South Carolina, and Foster of Alabama.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, chairman of the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, he was excused from further service on said committee.

The Speaker appointed Mr. Foote a member of the committee in place of Mr. Chilton, excused.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 142. An act to prevent the enlistment or enrollment of substitutes in the military service of the Confederate States, and to repeal all laws permitting or authorizing the same, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That no person liable to military service shall hereafter be permitted or allowed to furnish a substitute for such service, nor shall any substitute be received, enlisted, or enrolled in the military service of the Confederate States, and that all laws heretofore passed permitting or allowing persons liable to military service to furnish substitutes for the same, or authorizing the acceptance, enlistment, or enrollment of any such substitute in the military service, be, and the same are hereby, repealed,

And the question being on the amendment of the committee, which is as follows, viz:

Strike out after the words "Confederate States," in the fifth line, the words "and that all laws heretofore passed permitting or allowing persons liable to military

service to furnish substitutes for the same, or authorizing the acceptance, enlistment, or enrollment of any such substitute in the military service, be, and the same are hereby, repealed."

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment as follows, viz: Add the words

And all persons who have furnished such substitutes, as well as such substitutes, shall be liable to military service.

Mr. McLean moved the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment of the committee was agreed to.

The question then recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Conrad,

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 30
 } Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lewis, Lyon, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Singleton, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Ayer, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Foster, Funsten, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

The bill having been ordered to a third reading,

Mr. Singleton offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the bill and amendments be referred back to the Committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to report a bill embracing the following points, viz:

1. A repeal of all laws or parts of laws allowing substitutes in future.
2. Requiring all principals having substitutes, which substitutes are liable to conscription, to return and take their places in the Army.
3. Requiring all persons whose substitutes have deserted to return to the Army.
4. Declaring that all persons who have able-bodied substitutes now doing service in the Army, which substitutes are over the present conscript age, shall not be required to return, unless the conscript act be extended so as to embrace these substitutes.

Mr. Garnett moved to lay the resolution on the table.

The motion prevailed, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the title of the bill as follows, viz: Strike out after the words "Confederate States" the words "and to repeal all laws permitting or authorizing the same."

The amendment was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the rule requiring the bill to lie over for two days was suspended.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of the day; which was the preamble and resolutions offered by Mr. Foote on Friday last in regard to the employment of certain persons in civil offices to the exclusion of others and to the great detriment of the public service.

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the preamble and resolutions were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments," approved March 26, 1863, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass with sundry amendments.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States do enact*, That so much of the above-recited act as provides for the appointment of commissioners in each State by the President of the Confederate States and the governors of the different States, and gives to said commissioners the power to fix prices to be paid for property impressed, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

SEC. 2. That in all cases where property is impressed for the use of the Army or Navy, or for other public use, the same shall be paid for at the time and place of said impressment, according to the valuation ascertained and determined by disinterested citizens of the city, county, or parish in which the impressment may be made, in the manner and according to the regulations provided in the first, second, and third sections of the above-recited act,

And the question being on agreeing to the amendments of the committee, which are as follows, viz:

(1) In second section, line 3, after the word "use," insert the words "under said act."

(2) Strike out the words "and place."

(3) In same section, before word "disinterested," insert the words "loyal and."

(4) At the end of second section add "or according to the eighth section thereof when it is applicable."

(5) Amend by adding the following as third section:

"SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the act amendatory of the above-recited act, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be, and the same is hereby, repealed."

The first, second, third, and fourth amendments of the committee were agreed to.

The question recurring upon agreeing to the fifth amendment of the committee,

Mr. Gray moved to amend as follows, viz:

SEC. 2. Whenever the officer making the impressment of property under the act hereby amended shall believe that the appraisement is fair and just, he shall indorse his approval upon the certificate of appraisement and make payment accordingly; but if he shall believe that it is not fair and just, but that it is grossly or fraudulently greater than the established market price, then he shall refuse to approve, and indorse the reasons of his refusal on the certificate, and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the appraisers, by reporting the case to the Confederate district court for its decision on the facts, and also to the department or bureau for which the officer may be acting. And meantime the property shall be held by the officer.

Mr. Gray moved that the bill and amendments be recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Foster demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Hilton, the bill and amendments were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Menees moved that the House insist upon its amendments to the joint resolution of the Senate entitled

S. 16. Joint resolution in relation to the public printing, and grant the conference asked for by that body.

The motion was agreed to, and

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Menees of Tennessee, Preston of Virginia, and Gartrell of Georgia as committee on the part of the House.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. to-morrow.

NINTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Duncan.

Mr. Clopton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal the laws of naturalization;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, a bill to be entitled "An act to regulate exports and imports;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Foster introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes,' approved March twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Curry introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act so to amend section eleven hundred and twenty-seven of Army Regulations as to prohibit officers not actually in the field from drawing subsistence stores at contract prices for the use of their families;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Curry, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Smith, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

Mr. Hanly offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill ratifying consolidations which have already been made of two or more regiments from the same State, and providing by law for future consolidations and the disposition to be made of the supernumerary officers occasioned by such consolidations.

Mr. Vest introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of William F. Haines;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

A message was received from the Senate; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments proposed by this House to the bill of the Senate (S. 142) to be entitled "An act to prevent the enlistment or enrollment of substitutes in the military service of the Confederate States, and to repeal all laws permitting or authorizing the same."

Mr. Vest introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for placing in the military service all persons claiming to be citizens of the United States;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Read, it was ordered that the bill to be entitled "An act continuing in pay all wounded and disabled officers who have been so disabled in the service" be taken from the Calendar of last session and placed on the Calendar of this.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to inquire whether impressments under the act entitled "An act to regulate impressments," approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, can be lawfully made otherwise than by actual seizure and appropriation; and whether a notice in writing of an intention to impress accompanying an offer to purchase at a stated price an unascertained surplus of produce in the hands of the owner can have the effect to bind the same and prevent its use by the necessitous; and, further, whether in the practical execution of said law the entire surplus of the necessities of life has been seized in certain districts and counties in the hands of producers without regard to the wants of the nonproducing inhabitants; and, if so, whether any and what legislation is required to prevent abuses under the law.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing by law the President of the Confederate States to summarily dismiss from the service and put into the ranks any officer of the Army who may allow himself and command to be surprised by the enemy.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to continue in force an act entitled 'An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named,' approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill as early as practicable providing for the calling into the military service all who have been heretofore exempted therefrom by reason of the employment of substitutes, upon such equitable terms as they shall consider just and proper.

Mr. Conrad introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foote offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas a copy of the truly characteristic proclamation of amnesty recently issued by the imbecile and unprincipled usurper who now sits enthroned upon the ruins of constitutional liberty in Washington City has been received and read by the members of this House: Now, in token of what is solemnly believed to be the almost undivided sentiment of the people of the Confederate States, be it

Resolved, That there has never been a day or an hour when the people of the Confederate States were more inflexibly resolved than they are at the present time never to relinquish the struggle of arms in which they are engaged until that liberty and independence for which they have been so earnestly contending shall have been at last achieved and made sure and steadfast beyond even the possibility of future danger; and that in spite of the reverses which have lately befallen our armies in several quarters, and cold and selfish indifference to our sufferings thus far for the most part evinced in the action of foreign powers, the eleven millions of enlightened freemen now battling heroically for all that can make existence desirable are fully prepared, alike in spirit and in resource, to encounter dangers far greater than those which they have heretofore bravely met and to submit to far greater sacrifices than those which they have heretofore so cheerfully encountered, in preference to holding any further political connection with a government and people who have notoriously

proved themselves contemptuously regardless of all the rights and privileges which belong to a state of civil freedom, as well as of all the most sacred usages of civilized war.

Mr. Miles moved to lay the preamble and resolution on the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to raise a revenue by direct taxation;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Gray, by unanimous consent, moved that the special order fixed for the third Monday of this session, which was the consideration of a bill to be entitled "An act to organize a supreme court," be postponed until the third Monday in January.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the motion by striking out the "third Monday in January" and inserting in lieu thereof "until the subject of the currency is disposed of by this House."

The hour devoted to the call of the States having expired,

Mr. Gartrell moved that the consideration of the Calendar be postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell moved the question; which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Garland,

It was decided in the negative, and the motion of Mr. Gray was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Russell, the bill to be entitled "An act to organize a court of claims" was also postponed until the third Monday in January.

Mr. Chambliss offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing the families of soldiers who are refugees from their homes by reason of the presence of the public enemy to purchase of the commissary of the military post near which they may be residing one ration per day, at Government price.

Mr. Chambliss presented a proposition on the currency; which, without being read, was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Russell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to facilitate the raising of ways and means to carry on the war;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Miller offered the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas in the present condition of the affairs, military and political, of these Confederate States of America, and in view of the proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, President of the Northern United States, lately promulgated, it well becomes the Representatives of the people in Congress assembled to express their opinions and announce their determination to the world: Therefore, be it

Resolved, First. That the principle upon which the people of these Confederate States acted, and for which they accepted the gage of battle forced upon them by the people of the Northern United States, was the right of self-government, and involved therein their right, as the people of sovereign States, to choose their associates in any federal union they may decide to form.

Second. That they have seen no cause to falter in this their determination, and that they will continue by all the means in their power, either as individuals or Representatives, to assert and vindicate the principles hereinbefore expressed.

Third. That we feel the responsibility resting on us to remedy by all means in our power the present depreciated condition of the currency; and that, believing we have the power to enact such remedy, we hereby pledge ourselves to the people of the Confederate States to adopt such necessary measures, so far as our wisdom can devise, as will effect the end so much desired and so vital to our success.

Fourth. That we, as Representatives of the people and as individuals, hereby solemnly and irrevocably utterly deny, defy, spurn back, and scorn the terms of amnesty offered by Abraham Lincoln in his official proclamation.

Fifth. That we have entire confidence and the most undoubted faith in the bravery of our soldiers in the field, and whilst difference of opinion may exist as to the relative merits of commanders in chief in the field, there has been no time and no occasion when the people of these Confederate States had not the right to congratulate themselves on the possession of an army as brave and as intelligent as the annals of history afford.

Sixth. That we will continue, as we believe we have hitherto done, to give to our Army the support in comfort, means, and confidence which their bravery and their services demand, and which we owe as a debt of gratitude to patriots and heroes.

Seventh. That whilst we feel the heavy hand of our enemies upon us in their occupation and rule of large portions of our territory and the heavy sacrifice in property and feelings which our citizens have undergone and are now undergoing, we now hereby pledge ourselves, as Representatives and individuals, that we will not yield one inch of our territory in any future adjudication and settlement of our rights.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the preamble and resolutions were laid upon the table.

Mr. Garnett introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to allow the tax in kind of cured bacon to be commuted in certain cases;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to facilitate the detection of frauds in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed to communicate to this House the proceedings of the Senate upon the occasion of the death of the Hon. William Lowndes Yancey, late a Senator from the State of Alabama.

The proceedings of the Senate were then read as follows, viz:

Resolved, That we have heard with deep regret of the death of the Honorable William Lowndes Yancey, a Senator from the State of Alabama, and that we tender to his family our earnest sympathy in their afflictive bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased, and that the House of Representatives be informed of the action of the Senate.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now adjourn.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolutions; which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the House of Representatives receives with sincere regret the announcement of the death, on the twenty-eighth of July last, of the Honorable William Lowndes Yancey, late a member of the Senate from the State of Alabama, and tenders to the family of the deceased the assurance of their sympathy with them under the bereavement they have been called upon to sustain.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to transmit to the family of Mr. Yancey a certified copy of the foregoing resolution.

Resolved (as a mark of respect for the memory of the deceased), That the House do now adjourn.

Pursuant to the last resolution,

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TENTH DAY—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Mr. Lyons moved that the communication be read and spread upon the Journal of the House.

The motion was agreed to, and the communication was read as follows, viz: *

RICHMOND, *December 16, 1863.*

Hon. THOMAS S. BOGOCK,
Speaker of House of Representatives.

SIR: I have received your communication of this date, informing me that the House of Representatives had invited me to a seat in their Hall. I am deeply grateful for this undeserved honor, and should be much gratified to be able to avail myself of the privilege to enjoy the opportunity of paying my respects to the representatives of the people, but called to Richmond on public business, my whole attention is occupied in its execution.

With profound thanks for the honor extended to me by the House of Representatives, sincerely grateful for the kind sentiments expressed by yourself,

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Collier.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 16, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 10th instant, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War relative to the exemption of mail contractors "under the act of April 14, 1863," and to the action of the Department upon the subject.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Smith of North Carolina, the communication and accompanying document were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.

The Speaker laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 16, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Attorney-General ad interim, submitting additional estimates for the expenditures of the Department of Justice.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purpose designated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and the communication of the Attorney-General were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Read, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act providing rations of tobacco for the Army and Navy of the Confederate States;" which was read a first and second time, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Lyons, under a suspension of the rules, presented the memorial of sundry clerks in the Executive Departments of the Government at Richmond, praying increased compensation; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act providing for the alteration of the tenure in certain offices therein specified."

reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do not pass.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the bill, and that it do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Crockett, from the Committee on Elections, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri,"

[reported the same back,] with the recommendation that it do pass.

On motion of Mr. Crockett, the consideration of the bill was postponed, in order that the same might be considered in secret session.

Mr. E. M. Bruce presented sundry communications from Major-General Hindman; which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs do inquire whether fines have been illegally imposed on citizens not in the Army, and the property of such persons illegally confiscated by courts-martial and military officers in the city of Richmond or elsewhere; what amount of money has been levied by such fines and how much property has been thus confiscated, and make report thereof with such bill in relation thereto as it may deem necessary.

Mr. Staples offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill placing in the Army, first, all principals whose substitutes have deserted; second, all principals whose substitutes have died or have been discharged from the Army, but providing some equitable mode of remuneration to those whose substitutes have died in the service or have been honorably discharged therefrom.

Also, the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire into the expediency of amending the twelfth section of the act of the twenty-fourth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to lay taxes for the common defense, so as to provide for assessing and taxing hogs slaughtered by others than the producer.

Mr. Chilton introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to refund to the State of Alabama the sum of ——— dollars, the balance due on account of the purchase of the steamer Florida,"

accompanied by a memorial from the State of Alabama; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House if any steps have

been taken by commanding officers to enforce the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave," approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

Mr. Hanly offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to furnish this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, a copy of the report of the acts and operations of Major-General T. C. Hindman, under date the nineteenth June, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and filed in the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office.

Mr. Garland offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee heretofore appointed to inquire into and report upon the manufacture of arms in the city of Richmond be authorized and requested to make further inquiry and report upon the subject, and that the authority conferred by the former order of the House be rescinded, and that two additional members be added to said committee.

Mr. Hilton offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the propriety of increasing the rank and pay of the adjutants of regiments and independent battalions, and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Welsh introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to place missionaries sent to our armies on the same footing with chaplains as to the right to transportation and the purchase of supplies from the quartermasters and commissaries;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of families of soldiers who have died, been disabled, or become diseased in the military service of the Confederate States;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the laws establishing military courts as to provide for a higher court to which there may be a final appeal from the present courts, which will also have the power to try officers below the rank of lieutenant-general. Also, as to the expediency of giving clearer or more enlarged power to military courts to compel the attendance of witnesses.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire and report to this House what legislation is necessary to increase the efficiency in the administration of military law in the Army, and particularly whether there exists sufficient powers of calling courts-martial, and whether any substantial reasons exist why powers to dispose of offenders below the grade of colonel should not be conferred on courts to be called by brigadier-generals.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That certain letters, extracts from which are now read in hearing of the House, relating to the suffering of our brave soldiery for want of needful subsistence, be referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Subsistence [Transportation], and that said committee be instructed to look without delay into the present condition of our heroic armies in regard to subsistence, with a view to recommending the adoption of what they shall deem the surest and readiest means of obtaining accurate information upon this important subject, to the end that all suitable legislative expedients may be adopted without delay for providing our brave soldiery everywhere with substantial and comfortable subsistence.

Mr. Wilcox offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the act to lay taxes for the common defense as to

allow planters a just compensation for the bagging and rope furnished by them for the purpose of baling the one-tenth of cotton delivered to the Government.

Mr. Machen offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into and report to this House whether there is any law authorizing the action of the military authorities in requiring passports to be secured by citizens before they are allowed to travel over the ordinary thoroughfares, and in case there is no such law, that they report a bill regulating the subject in such manner as to prevent all unnecessary interference with personal rights, and at the same time protect the efficient organization of the Army and the general interests of the Government.

Mr. Russell moved that the consideration of the Calendar be postponed until he could submit a motion to the House.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved that the memorial of William Waller, referred to the Committee on Claims at the last session, be again referred to the same committee.

The motion was agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of a bill on the Calendar, to be entitled "An act continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service."

Mr. Read moved that the bill and amendments be postponed until Monday next, made the special order for that day, and printed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Boudinot introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act providing for the appointment of a commissioner of accounts for the States and Territories west of the Mississippi;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill to be entitled "An act providing for the payment of all certified accounts of acting quartermasters, acting commissaries, and acting ordnance officers in the States and Territories west of the Mississippi River;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Swan,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

ELEVENTH DAY—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

Mr. Staples offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to this House the report of Brigadier-General Echols, relating to the battle of Droop Mountain.

Mr. Goode offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the act regulating impressments as to relieve from impressment by the officers of the Government a sufficient quantity of breadstuffs and provisions to supply the wants of the nonproducing classes of the country.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the resolution by inserting in lieu of the "Committee on the Judiciary" the "Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments."

The amendment was not agreed to, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Miller offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Medical Department be instructed to inquire why wounded officers are charged two dollars per day in the hospitals of this city, contrary to the act of Congress of the twenty-ninth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and report to this House.

Mr. Bondinot introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act appropriating one hundred thousand dollars for the use and benefit of the Cherokee Nation;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Chilton presented the claim of Private Thomas B. Tully for services rendered in drilling troops at conscript camp at Talladega, Ala.; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments do inquire and report whether the tax in kind may not be garnered and husbanded with more security and less expense by citizens in the respective localities of such provisions, and who are not liable to military service, than by the present system of collecting and preserving it, and whether such a change would not at the same time tend greatly to strengthen our Army by placing in the field the officers and soldiers now engaged in that business, and that said committee report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Curry introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act authorizing chaplains in certain cases to draw forage for one horse;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lewis introduced

A joint resolution to be entitled "Joint resolution in relation to assessment of certain railroad iron;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Clark offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be required at the earliest moment to inquire into the propriety of repealing the potato clause in the tax bill, and the further change of allowing commutation in money in lieu of wool grown by them where it is shown that the same was used in clothing for our soldiers.

Mr. H. W. Bruce introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to furnish horses to certain soldiers;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Moore moved that the claims of John Randolph Cardwell, of Charlotte County, and William Cardwell, referred to the Committee on Claims at the last session, be again referred to the same committee.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to prevent fraud in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and

the obtaining under false pretense transportation for private property,' approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Farrow presented a communication from Rev. Benjamin Holder in relation to a discovery for preventing the counterfeiting of Confederate notes; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That a select committee of three members be appointed to inquire into and report to the House as to the practicability of procuring a supply of salt in the vicinity of the salt wells of Smyth and Washington counties, State of Virginia, by mining, and upon the comparative advantages of mining and other modes of supply.

Mr. Foote presented a communication from a private in Early's division, Army of Northern Virginia, on the subject of supplying rations to the soldiers; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the special committee on illegal arrests, etc., be allowed to employ a clerk and have authority to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Foote moved that the communication of Captain Warner, commissary of Yankee prisoners in the city of Richmond, presented by him on the — instant, touching the quantity of provisions furnished said prisoners, be referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, with instructions to said committee to inquire into the falsehood or verity of the statements therein contained, and make report thereof to the House.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Texas introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments," approved March 26, 1863; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments,' approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."

reported back in lieu thereof a bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to regulate impressments,' approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal the act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" which was read first and second times, placed upon the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the same committee, to which had been referred another bill with the same title and several resolutions in relation to the subject of impressments, reported the same back, moved that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Garnett,

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill to be entitled "An act to allow the tax in kind of cured bacon to be commuted in certain cases" was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The motion was agreed to, and

On motion of Mr. Garnett, the bill was referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Chilton moved that the Chair appoint two new members on the Committee on Ways and Means during the absence of Messrs. Kenner and Holt.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Preston moved that the Chair appoint two new members on the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments during the absence of Messrs. Marshall and Royston.

The motion was agreed to, and

The Chair appointed Messrs. Hanly of Arkansas and Trippe of Georgia.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, December 17, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

In partial response to your resolution of the 11th instant, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a list of exempts in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Further information on this subject will be communicated when received.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and communication from the Secretary of War were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Hanly,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., December 16, 1863.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration in secret session a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering a report in relation to "foreign cotton loan."

I recommend the ratification by Congress of the accompanying contract for a second foreign loan and of the issue of the cotton certificates made for the use of the Navy Department.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Foote moved to refer the communication and accompanying documents to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Graham moved to amend by inserting in place of the "Committee on Ways and Means" the "Special Committee on the Currency."

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the amendment by referring the subject to a select committee of five members.

The question being upon agreeing to the amendment to the amendment,

It was decided in the affirmative.

And the question recurring on agreeing to the motion as amended, It was also decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Perkins moved the following instructions; which were adopted, viz:

with instructions to report how much cotton the Government has now on hand and how much has been disposed of by the Government abroad; also, how much has been realized from the Erlanger loan, and how much of that has been expended, and for what.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of a bill on the Calendar, to be entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri."

Mr. Vest moved that the bill do lie on the table.

The motion was agreed to.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWELFTH DAY—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

The Speaker announced the appointment of the Special Committee on the Manufacture of Salt, under the resolution of Mr. Heiskell, as follows, viz:

Messrs. Heiskell of Tennessee, Staples of Virginia, and H. W. Bruce of Kentucky.

Also, the appointment of two additional members of the Special Committee on the Manufacture of Arms, viz:

Messrs. Machen of Kentucky and Miller of Virginia.

The Speaker also announced that he had appointed Messrs. Perkins of Louisiana and Hartridge of Georgia members of the Committee on Ways and Means, vice Kenner of Louisiana and Holt of Georgia, during their absence.

On motion of Mr. Ashe, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Smith, who had been called home by illness in his family.

On motion of Mr. Clopton, leave of absence was also granted to Mr. Munnerlyn.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 160. An act to authorize the appointment of a Third Auditor of the Treasury; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the army in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," as to authorize the President, if in his opinion the exigencies demand it, to establish a military court for the district of north Alabama.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 160. A bill to authorize the appointment of a Third Auditor of the Treasury; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Hilton presented certain resolutions of the legislature of Florida in relation to commerce; which, without being read, were referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Hilton also introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act for the establishment of temporary restrictions upon commerce;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Hartridge presented certain resolutions of the legislature of Georgia in relation to the mail service; which, without being read, were referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Clark introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to repeal so much of section eleven of the tax law as requires one-tenth of the sweet potatoes produced this year to be paid to the Government."

The bill having been read first and second times,

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee, and demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

Pending the call of the roll, a message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed to communicate to this House the proceedings of the Senate upon the occasion of the death of the Hon. R. L. Y. Peyton, late a Senator from the State of Missouri.

The proceedings of the Senate were then read as follows, viz:

Resolved, That we have heard with deep regret of the death of the Honorable Robert L. Y. Peyton, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate to the House of Representatives a copy of these resolutions.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now adjourn.

Mr. Bell offered the following resolutions; which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That this House has heard with deep sensibility the announcement of the death of Honorable Robert L. Y. Peyton, late a Confederate Senator from the State of Missouri.

Resolved, That, as a further token of our respect for the deceased, the House do now adjourn.

Pursuant to the resolution last read,

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 12 o'clock m. Monday.

THIRTEENTH DAY—MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Keen.

The House resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of Saturday; which was the bill introduced by Mr. Clark, to be entitled

An act to repeal so much of section 11 of the tax law as requires one-tenth of the sweet potatoes produced this year to be paid to the Government.

The yeas and nays, which had been ordered on motion of Mr. Clark to suspend the rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee,

Are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 41
Nays 12

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Ayer, Bell, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Crockett, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Heiskell, Lewis, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Russell, and Welsh.

So the motion was agreed to.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That so much of section eleven of an act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, as requires farmers and planters to pay one-tenth of the sweet potatoes produced in the present year to the Confederate Government, be, and the same is hereby, repealed,

Mr. Hilton moved to amend by striking out after the word "Government," in the last line, the words "be, and the same is hereby, repealed," and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

be so amended as to authorize producers of sweet potatoes in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-three to make commutation by payment of the money value of the tithe thereof, instead of paying in kind, at rates to be fixed by the commissioners under the impressment act.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment,

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Gartrell, by unanimous consent, demanded the yeas and nays; Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 53
Nays 7

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Ayer, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, Mences, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Clark, Collier, Davidson, Foster, Gaither, and McDowell.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion, the title of the bill was amended by striking out the word "repeal" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "amend."

Mr. Curry moved to suspend the rule requiring the bill to lie over for two days for reconsideration.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Speaker be, and he is hereby, instructed to tender to Major-Generals S. B. Buckner and McCown and Brigadier-Generals William Preston and John S. Williams seats in this Hall during their sojourn in the city of Richmond.

Mr. H. W. Bruce introduced

A joint resolution to be entitled "Joint resolution to correct the records of the War Department, concerning the Ninth Kentucky Regiment of Infantry;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce presented a proposition on the currency; which, without being read, was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to continue in service all troops now in the military service of the Confederate States;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell, by unanimous consent, offered an amendment to the bill; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Read, by unanimous consent, also offered an amendment; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was agreed to:

Whereas it is represented there are sundry European papers and documents in the post-office of this city, addressed to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, upon which the postage is due and unpaid; and

Whereas there is no one authorized or required to advance postage in such case; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Doorkeeper of this House be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay the postage due on the papers and documents aforesaid and deliver them to such Committee on Foreign Affairs, and hereafter the said Doorkeeper be, and he is hereby, furthermore, required to advance postage due on all such papers or documents that may be in the post-office in this city and directed to any officer or committee of this House; and in all such cases the amounts so advanced shall be reimbursed to said Doorkeeper out of the contingent fund of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, viz:

Resolved, That whenever any part of the forces now in the field shall be re-enlisted, the battalions, regiments, or companies shall be allowed to select their officers.

Mr. Heiskell submitted a proposition relative to the currency; which, without being read, was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Foote presented sundry communications from soldiers in the Army; which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gray introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act supplementary and amendatory of the several acts for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies," etc.;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Sexton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of furnishing to officers in service in the field rations and uniform clothing made up at Government prices.

Mr. Chambliss presented the petition of Capt. Richard Evans, Confederate States Navy, praying relief, etc.; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize refugee soldiers to purchase subsistence for their families at Government prices;"

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of enacting—

1. That the notes of all banks in the Confederacy held by alien enemies be confiscated.

2. That all such notes which shall not be deposited in the banks, respectively, which have issued the same, within ninety days after the passage of this act, shall be presumed to be held by alien enemies.

3. That any bank which may owe a debt to the Government by reason of such confiscation may discharge the same, or any part thereof, within a certain time, by paying a tenth thereof in specie, and the remainder in bonds of the Confederate States.

4. To apply similar principles to coupons and other paper negotiable by delivery.

Mr. Russell introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to place in military service certain persons who have employed substitutes;"

which was read first and second times and, on motion of Mr. Russell, laid upon the table.

Mr. Goode presented joint resolutions of the general assembly of Virginia in relation to compensation allowed cavalrymen for the use of their horses in service, and also in relation to paying the actual value of the horses when lost in service; which were read and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order of the day; which was the bill to be entitled "An act continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service."

Mr. Read moved that the bill and amendments do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Read also moved that the bill reported from the special committee, to be entitled "An act to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers," be taken up for consideration; which motion was also agreed to.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That any commissioned or noncommissioned officer and any private or musician in the service of the Confederate States, who, after examination by a board of surgeons, shall be pronounced permanently disabled to perform any military duty whatever, by reason of wounds or injuries received, or disease manifestly contracted in the service, and in the line of his duty, may resign his commission, or demand his discharge (as the case may be), or continue in the service, as he may prefer.

SEC. 2. That if such officer or soldier shall elect to remain in the service, he shall, so long as such disability continue, be considered as on furlough, but shall be entitled to no pay whatever, unless it be shown, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of War, that he is rendered unable by the wound, or injury, or disease, aforesaid, to

earn a livelihood by any trade, occupation, or calling; that he has no other means of subsistence, and has not been otherwise provided for by the Confederate, by any State government, or by any county, parish, city, or other municipal body; in which event he shall be entitled to receive, so long as such disability continues, and no longer, if a commissioned officer, half the pay proper; if a noncommissioned officer, or a private, or musician, the entire pay proper, which he is now entitled to receive, but without any emolument whatever.

SEC. 3. That any noncommissioned officer, private, or musician who may have heretofore been discharged from the service on account of wounds or injuries received, or disease manifestly contracted in the service, and in the line of his duty, may avail himself of the benefits conferred by this act, but, in that case, he shall be considered as having reenlisted, and shall be, in all respects, on the same footing as those who had resigned prior to the passage of this act.

SEC. 4. In case the disability of any officer or soldier who may be on furlough under the provisions of this act should cease, he shall be immediately ordered on duty.

SEC. 5. That in all cases where an examination by a board of surgeons may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this act, the Secretary of War may employ for that purpose any such board that may have been established by law, or may appoint a board or boards for that special purpose, as he may deem proper; and it shall be the duty of said Secretary to make all regulations that may be necessary to carry this law into effect, to prevent fraud or imposition on the Government, and to secure the prompt return to duty of any officer on furlough under this act whose disabilities may have ceased,

Mr. Read submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute therefor), viz:

A bill continuing in pay all discharged soldiers by reason of wounds and injuries received in the service.

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That all commissioned and noncommissioned officers, musicians, and private soldiers who have been or who may hereafter be discharged from service by reason of wounds and injuries received or diseases contracted in the service and in the line of his duty, or that may have been so received in the service of any of the States comprising this Confederacy, whose services and troops have been recognized and received into the service of the Confederate States, and who shall have been declared wholly or in part disabled by wounds or injuries received in the service, so as to disable them from further service, or so as to render them unfit for labor, in whole or in part, shall be continued in pay from the date of their discharge until the present war shall have been concluded, at the rate and manner hereinafter declared: *Provided*, That the said officers, musicians, or privates shall not have received from the Government any office of pay or profit: *And provided further*, That on the appointment hereafter of any such officer, musician, or private to any office of pay and profit that his pay under this act shall cease.

SEC. 2. All persons claiming the benefit of this act shall be examined by presenting their applications to one of the boards of physicians, known as the examining boards for the several States, as now established by law, and upon a certificate of any of said boards that the applicant is wholly disabled from physical labor, the person so applying shall be entitled to full pay at the rate to which he was or may be entitled at the time of his discharge: *Provided, however*, That no commutation shall be allowed to commissioned officers: *And provided further*, That should said examining board find any applicant only partially disabled from labor, that fact and the extent of disability shall be specially certified, and payment made in proportion to their disability.

SEC. 3. Payment shall be made under this act semiannually, to wit: On the fourth day of March and fourth day of September of each year, which payments shall be made by any disbursing quartermaster under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War, whose duty it shall be to prepare and furnish to the several examining boards now established by law, or that may hereafter be established, such regulations as may be necessary to protect the Government against frauds.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of said examining board to retire from the service all persons within the purview of this act, so that inferior officers may take their places by promotion; but whenever it shall appear to said examining board that any person claiming the benefit of this act shall have been restored from such disability, such person shall be immediately returned to duty: *Provided*, That if such person be an officer he shall be assigned to post duty.

SEC. 5. This act to take effect from its passage.

On motion of Mr. Funsten, the bill and substitute were postponed—the bill ordered to be placed on the Calendar, and the substitute to be printed.

The House then took up for consideration a bill on the Calendar, to be entitled

An act to amend an act entitled “An act to regulate impressments,” approved March 26, 1863, and to repeal the act amendatory thereof, approved April 27, 1863.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That so much of the above-recited act as authorizes the commissioners appointed by the President of the Confederate States and the governors of the different States to fix the prices to be paid for property impressed be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

SEC. 2. That in all cases where property is impressed for the use of the Army or Navy, or for other public use under said act, the same shall be paid for at the time of said impressment, according to the valuation ascertained and determined by loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county, or parish in which the impressment may be made, in the manner and according to the regulations provided in the first, second, and third sections of the above-recited act.

SEC. 3. Whenever the officer making the impressment of property, under the act hereby amended, shall believe that the appraisement is fair and just, he shall indorse his approval upon the certificate of appraisement, and make payment accordingly; but if he shall believe that it is not fair and just, then he shall refuse to approve, and indorse the reasons of his refusal on the certificate, and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the appraisers by reporting the case to the commissioners appointed under said act, to which this is an amendment, for their decision, whose judgment shall be final, and in the meantime the property shall be held by the officer impressing the same, who shall give a receipt therefor to the owner.

SEC. 4. The said commissioner shall have power to summon and examine witnesses to enable them to fix the value of the property impressed, which shall be the value of the property at the time and place of the impressment, and the sole duties of said commissioners shall hereafter be to fix the value of the property in cases of appeal, and all their other duties are hereby taken away; and when the commissioners shall have fixed the value of the property in cases of appeal, they shall furnish the owner and impressing officer with a statement of such value, which shall be paid for accordingly.

SEC. 5. That said commissioners shall be sworn faithfully to discharge all their duties under this act and the act to which this is an amendment.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That the act amendatory of the above-recited act, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be, and the same is hereby, repealed,

Mr. Staples offered the following amendment:

Insert, in section 2, after the word “impressment,” in sixth line, the words “unless an appeal shall be taken from said valuation, as hereinafter provided.”

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Russell submitted the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Add at the end of section 2 the words “or in the eighth section thereof, when it is applicable.”

Mr. Gartrell offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Add at the end of section 3 the words “who shall also have the right of appeal, as herein provided.”

Mr. Clark moved to amend by striking out the third section.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Foster offered the following amendment:

Add to the end of third section the words "*Provided, however, That the officer shall pay the owner what he may conceive a fair compensation for the property thus impressed: Provided further, That the owner may receive the price offered by the impressing officer without prejudice to his claim to receive the higher compensation.*"

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Staples offered the following amendment; which was not agreed to:

In section 4, after the word "witnesses," strike out the words "to enable them to fix the value of the property impressed, which shall be the value of the property at the time and place of the impressment, and the sole duties of said commissioners shall hereafter be to fix the value of the property in cases of appeal, and all their other duties are hereby taken away; and when the commissioners shall have fixed the value of the property in cases of appeal, they shall furnish the owner and impressing officer with a statement of such value, which shall be paid for accordingly," and insert the following: "or take the depositions of the witnesses, where either party prefer this mode of proof."

Mr. Clark offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Add at the end of the fourth section the words "which valuation by the commissioners shall be made within three months from the time of impressment."

Mr. Clopton offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

In section 6, after the words "eighteen hundred and sixty-three," insert these words: "and so much of the first section of said act as requires an affidavit to be made by the owner or his agent, that such property was grown, raised, or produced by said owner, or is held or has been purchased by him not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption."

Mr. Sexton offered the following amendment as an independent section, to come in between the fifth and sixth sections:

Be it further enacted, That the tenth section of the act to which this is amendatory be stricken out, and the following enacted instead thereof:

"No slave laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain and provisions shall be taken for public use without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity and upon the order of the general commanding the department in which said farm or plantation is situated."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

In section 2, after the word "valuation," insert the words "agreed upon between the parties or."

Mr. Clopton offered the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 8. *Be it further enacted*, That no impressments shall be made under this act or the act to which this act is amendatory for the use or benefit of contractors with the Government, and no impressments shall be made unless the impressing officer or agent exhibit to the owner of the property, upon demand, either an order from the Secretary of War or the commanding general of the department authorizing such impressments to be made.

Mr. Machen offered the following as an amendment to the amendment:

Strike out after the word "Government" the words "and no impressments shall be made unless the impressing officer or agent exhibit to the owner of the property, upon demand, either an order from the Secretary of War or the commanding general of the department authorizing such impressments to be made."

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to, and the amendment as amended was also agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. H. W. Bruce, it was ordered that the Speaker make temporary appointments to the Committee on Enrolled Bills during the absence of members of said committee.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, it was ordered that the Speaker make a temporary appointment to the Committee on Naval Affairs, in place of Mr. Hodge.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, it was ordered that the Speaker make a temporary appointment to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, in place of Mr. Royston.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, December 19, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several reports of military operations.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Heiskell, the message and accompanying documents were ordered to be printed, and that the usual number of extra copies also be printed; which motion was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Lyons moved that when the House adjourn to-morrow, the Senate consenting, it adjourn to meet on Monday, the 28th.

Pending the consideration of which motion,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Heiskell,

Adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FOURTEENTH DAY—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Burrows.

The House resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the motion of Mr. Lyons to adjourn until Monday, the 28th instant.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to lay the motion to adjourn on the table; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan, by unanimous [consent], presented the memorial of William J. Hardee, of Georgia, and S. H. Goetzel, of Alabama, publishers of Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics, praying the passage of an act granting them a special copyright in said work; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Patents.

Mr. Dargan also, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act to grant a special copyright to William J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzel for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Patents.

On motion of Mr. McDowell, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Arrington.

Mr. Garland, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back A resolution relative to the act of Congress of January 11, 1812, providing punishment for procuring or enticing soldiers to desert, moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that the same do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Garland, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent the procuring, aiding, and assisting of persons to desert from the Army of the Confederate States, and for other purposes;" which was read first and second times, postponed, and placed upon the Calendar.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz: S. 155. An act to protect Senators and Representatives in Congress from annoyance when traveling in the Confederate States;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Heiskell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy,"

reported the same back, moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy;"

which was read first and second times.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That no broker, banker, or dealer in exchange, or person concerned in trade as a merchant or vendor of merchandise of any description, shall buy, sell, take, or have in possession any paper currency of the United States. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall forfeit the amount so bought, sold, taken, or held in possession, or a sum equal thereto, be fined not less than one thousand dollars nor more than twenty thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not less than three months nor more than three years,

Mr. Read moved to amend by inserting after the word "description" the words "not within the enemy's lines."

The amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Davidson offered the following amendment:

After the word "description" insert the words "or any other person."

Pending the consideration of which, the hour devoted to reports from committees having expired,

On motion of Mr. Foote, by unanimous consent, the bill and amendments were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Heiskell, from the Judiciary Committee, by unanimous consent, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent trading with the enemy:" which was read first and second times and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Russell moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of enabling the Committee on Military Affairs to make a report.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred a series of bills, resolutions, etc., on the subject of substitutes, reported the same back, moved that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the law in relation to substitutes;"

which was read first and second times.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

Whereas, through frauds perpetrated on the Government under the clause of the act approved April sixteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, which granted the privilege that persons not liable to military duty might be received for those who were, our armies have been deprived of the services of men necessary for the public defense: Therefore,

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States do enact*, That in all cases where substitutes received under the provisions of the above (or any other) law have deserted, or shall hereafter desert, the obligation of the principal shall revive upon the desertion of the substitute being established and attested under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

SEC. 2. In all cases where a substitute has proved unfit for the discharge of the ordinary duties of a soldier, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, existing at the time he was received as a substitute, the obligation of the principal shall revive upon such incapacity being established and attested under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

SEC. 3. In all cases where a man who is a substitute would be liable to enrollment for military service under existing or future laws, if he were not already in the Army, the principal is hereby declared to be subject to such enrollment,

Mr. Russell offered the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute for the first section):

That no person shall remain exempt from military service by reason of his having furnished a substitute, but if any such person shall make it appear by proper evidence that he has a lawful and sufficient substitute now in the service, or that his substitute, having been sufficient, has died or been disabled in the service, such person shall not be liable to military service by virtue of this act until the expiration of a year from the time when his substitute was mustered in as such.

Mr. Clark offered the following amendment:

In the first section, strike out the words "have deserted, or."

Mr. Moore submitted the following as a substitute for the entire bill:

Whereas it is the duty of this Congress to increase the Army of the Confederate States, and thus render it sufficiently large to resist successfully the efforts of our enemies to lay waste our country, destroy our people and all the inestimable privileges which we hold dear as freemen; and

Whereas many of those who have heretofore put substitutes in the Army have accumulated large fortunes by trade and speculation, and should now aid in the defense of our country: Therefore,

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That having put substitutes in the Army shall no longer constitute any cause of exemption in favor of any one from being enrolled in the military service of the Confederate States.

Mr. Conrad offered the following amendment to the amendment:

Whereas in the present circumstances of the country it requires the aid of all who are able to bear arms,

The Congress of the Confederate States do therefore enact, That no person shall hereafter be exempted from military service by reason of his having furnished a substitute.

The Speaker announced the following appointments to committees, viz:

Naval Affairs.—Mr. Collier of Virginia in place of Mr. Smith; Mr. Freeman of Missouri in place of Mr. Hodge.

Printing.—Mr. Funsten of Virginia in place of Mr. Jenkins.

Post-Offices and Post-Roads.—Mr. Hanly of Arkansas in place of Mr. Royston.

Territories and Public Lands.—Mr. Miller of Virginia in place of Mr. Jenkins.

Claims.—Mr. Wright of Texas in place of Mr. Smith.

Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.—Mr. Ayer of South Carolina in place of Mr. Cooke.

Enrolled Bills.—Mr. H. W. Bruce of Kentucky in place of Mr. Elliott; Mr. Wright of Texas in place of Mr. Chambers, and Mr. Freeman of Missouri in place of Mr. Tibbs.

On motion of Mr. Bridgers, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Davidson, who had been called home on business of great importance to his State.

And on motion of Mr. Clark,

The House adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

FIFTEENTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Burrows.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz: S. 153. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to aid the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes," approved the 29th of January, 1862;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Speaker laid said bill before the House.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee was suspended, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Machen moved to suspend the forty-second rule, which requires the bill to lie over for two days; which motion was agreed to.

The Speaker also laid before the House a Senate bill to be entitled S. 155. An act to protect Senators and Representatives in Congress from annoyance when traveling in the Confederate States.

The bill having been read first and second times,

Mr. Sexton moved to suspend the rule requiring it to be referred to a committee; which motion was agreed to.

The bill having been ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Gartrell moved to lay the bill on the table.

The motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Garland moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the motion of Mr. Gartrell to refer the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary by adding the following, viz:

with instructions to report a bill providing in some judicious manner for the removal of the existing evil.

Mr. Curry demanded the previous question: which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Foote,

It was decided in the negative.

The question then recurring on agreeing to the motion of Mr. Gartrell,

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 28
 { Nays ----- 29 [30]

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Clapp, Collier, Currin, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Singleton, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, Machen, McLean, Menees, Moore, Ralls, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Menees, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the joint resolution of the Senate in relation to the public printing, submitted the following report:

The committee of conference on the disagreement between the two Houses on the joint resolution in relation to the public printing beg leave to report and recommend that the House recede from its amendment, and that the Senate agree to the following amendment, viz:

In the fifth line, strike out the word "committee" and insert "joint committee."

Mr. Hilton demanded the question; which was ordered, and the report of the committee was agreed to.

Mr. Gray, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to and amendatory of the several acts for the sequestration of the estates, property, and effects of alien enemies," etc.,

by unanimous consent, reported the same back with sundry amendments.

The bill and amendments were placed upon the Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Boteler offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency of providing by law for temporarily filling vacancies caused by the capture of officers.

Also, the following resolution (accompanied by memoranda of proposed legislation); which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire what legislation is necessary to make adjutants and sergeants-major eligible to any offices in the regiments for exhibitions of extraordinary valor and skill, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a Senate bill to be entitled

S. 142. An act to prevent the enlistment or enrollment of substitutes in the military service of the Confederate States, etc.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Foote, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to which had been referred the memorial of Gen. G. Tochman, reported the same back, moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That when the House adjourns to-day it will adjourn until Tuesday, the twenty-ninth instant, at twelve o'clock.

Mr. Atkins moved to lay the resolution on the table, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 38
 Nays----- 21

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Bell, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, De Jarnette, Farrow, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Miller, Moore, Preston, Read, Simpson, Staples, and Vest.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of W. Goddin, praying increase of rent for the building used as the Post-Office Department; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, the memorial of the mechanics employed in the Quartermaster's Department, praying increased compensation; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 74. An act to amend so much of section 11 of the tax law as requires one-tenth of the sweet potatoes produced this year to be paid to the Government.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill to be entitled "An act to amend the law in relation to substitutes."

Mr. Gartrell moved that the bill and amendments be recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hartridge demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Hilton submitted the following amendment, to be added to the end of the first section:

Provided, That nothing in the foregoing clause shall be so construed as to relieve the substitute from any obligation or liability contracted or assumed by him as such substitute.

Mr. Preston demanded the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Clark,
It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Hilton,
It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Russell, by unanimous consent, modified his amendment by adding thereto the following: "This act shall not entitle substitutes to be discharged."

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment as modified,
Mr. Russell demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 18
Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Ayer, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, De Jarnette, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Hartridge, Kenan of North Carolina, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Staples, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the amendment was not agreed to.

The question then recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Conrad to the amendment of Mr. Moore,

Mr. Chilton, by unanimous consent, offered the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Conrad, to be added at the end of section:

But this act shall not be so construed as to affect persons who, though not liable to render military service, have, nevertheless, put in substitutes;

which was agreed to.

Mr. Currin, by unanimous consent, moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Conrad by striking out the word "hereafter;" which motion was agreed to, and the amendment of Mr. Conrad, as amended, was agreed to.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Moore, as amended,

Mr. Russell demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 44
Nays ----- 18

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Staples, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Ayer, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Gaither, Gartrell, Hilton, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, McLean, Miles, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the preamble of the amendment of

Mr. Moore by striking out the whole and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

Whereas in the present circumstances of the country it requires the aid of all who are able to bear arms,

The motion was agreed to, and the preamble of the amendment of Mr. Moore, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill having been engrossed and read a third time,

Mr. Preston demanded the question; which was ordered.

The question being,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Singleton demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 52
Nays 13

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Curry, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Ayer, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Dargan, Gartrell, Lyons, Miles, Strickland, Swan, and Trippe.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the title of the bill by striking out the whole and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell moved to reconsider the vote just taken by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Swan moved that the House adjourn; which motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table: which motion was agreed to.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

Adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTEENTH DAY—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Marshall.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., December 22, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 10th instant, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a list of the officers of artillery in the Provisional Army, for the performance of ordnance duties, appointed since the 16th day of September, 1862, and the "roll of merit" reported by the board of examiners.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Boteler, the message and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Speaker also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 23, 1863.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering "General Lee's report of the operations of the Army of Northern Virginia from the date of his assumption of command to and including the battle of Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862, and the subordinate reports appertaining thereto."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the message and accompanying documents were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend so much of section eleven of the tax law as requires one-tenth of the sweet potatoes produced this year to be paid to the Government."

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of the day before yesterday; which was

A bill to be entitled "An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy."

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered.

And the question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Davidson,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Dargan submitted the following amendment:

In the second section, strike out the words "have in his possession" and insert in lieu thereof the words "circulate or in any manner trade in."

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp offered the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute for the second section), viz:

Amend by striking out section 2 and inserting in lieu thereof as follows:

"SEC. 2. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be subject to indictment and prosecution in the Confederate court holden for the district within which the offense was committed, and shall, upon conviction, forfeit the amount so bought, sold, circulated, or used, or a sum equal thereto, and shall be moreover subject to a fine of not more than twenty thousand dollars nor less than five hundred, and be imprisoned not less than three months nor more than three years, at the discretion of said court; and it shall be the duty of the judges of the several Confederate courts to give this act specially in charge to the grand jury."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Foote offered the following amendment as an additional section; which was agreed to, viz:

But this act shall not be construed to apply to any person acting on behalf of the Government of the Confederate States by special authority from the President or any of the heads of Departments.

Mr. Chilton offered the following amendment; which was agreed to:

Add at the end of the bill the words "Provided, That the purchase of postage stamps shall not be considered a violation of this act."

Mr. Foote demanded the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Perkins, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported
A bill to be entitled "An act to establish a bureau of foreign supplies;" which was read first and second times, postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, also reported
A bill to be entitled "An act to prevent the running of the blockade, except on Government account, for articles necessary for the prosecution of the war;" which was read first and second times, postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to amend the act to regulate impressments," reported the same back and moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Gray, by unanimous consent, introduced
A bill to be entitled "An act authorizing the tax in kind on bacon to be commuted by collection of salt pork as an equivalent."

The bill having been read a first and second time,

Mr. Gray moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill to be referred to a committee; which motion was agreed to.

And the bill having been taken up for consideration,

Mr. Chambliss offered the following amendment; which was not agreed to, viz:

Insert after the word "receive" the words "at the option of the producer."

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Gray moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and demanded the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Read, from the Committee on Patents, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to grant a special copyright to William J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzel for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, to which had been referred a memorial of clerks in the Executive Departments, praying increased compensation, reported the same back, moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, to which had been referred
A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of William F. Haines," reported back the same and moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, reported a joint resolution for the relief of Maj. William F. Haines (as a substitute for the original bill); which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, to which had been referred the claim of T. S. N. King, executor of W. F. Newsom, deceased, for property destroyed by the United States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Farrow, from the same committee, to which had been referred the memorial of Mrs. M. E. Parker, praying to be refunded the excess of a Confederate war tax improperly assessed, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Farrow, from the same committee, to which had also been referred the memorial of Allen C. Hammond, of Berkeley County, Va., praying Congress to authorize the repayment of certain funds invested by him in the Confederate "call loan" in 1862, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to continue in force an act entitled 'An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named,' approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three," reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution touching the expediency of transferring the management and control of provost and conscript duties to the governors of the States, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred a series of bills, resolutions, etc., relating to the allowance of rations and clothing to officers, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had also been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act to allow commissioned officers of the Army rations and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Singleton, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to which had been referred the resolution submitted by Mr. Hanly, touching the privileges to be conferred upon the Delegates from the Indian nations, reported the same back, with the recommendation that they be adopted.

The question being on postponing the resolutions and placing them on the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative, and the resolutions were adopted.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 153. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to aid the State of Kentucky, and for other purposes," approved the 29th of January, 1862.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Singleton, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act for filling vacancies of Delegates to Congress in certain Indian nations,"

reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Singleton, from the same committee, reported a bill in lieu of the one just disposed of, to be entitled

An act to provide for filling vacancies of Delegates to Congress in certain Indian nations.

The bill having been read a first and second time, and the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The morning hour having expired, a bill on the Calendar was taken up for consideration, to be entitled

An act to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment submitted by Mr. Read (in the nature of a substitute),

Mr. Clapp offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

In section 1, after the word "soldiers," in third line, insert the words "or seamen."

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 77. An act authorizing the tax in kind on bacon to be commuted by collection of salt pork as an equivalent.

Mr. Singleton offered the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Read:

In fifteenth line, after the word "declared," insert the words "*Provided*, That every such officer, musician, or private shall make it appear, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of War, that he has no other adequate means of subsistence."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia offered the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Read:

In the first section, after the word "seamen," insert the words "and the widows and orphans of deceased officers and privates."

Mr. Hilton demanded the question: which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Kenan,

Mr. Kenan demanded the yeas and nays;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to receive into the service of the Confederate States that portion of the population of Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida known as and called "creoles;" which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Smith of Alabama introduced the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire whether or not the copyright law as it now exists extends the privilege of copyright to ordinary telegraphic dispatches to newspapers, embracing news paragraphs and daily occurrences; and that said committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency, if in their opinion the present law does embrace such telegraphic dispatches, of bringing in a bill to repeal so much of said law.

Mr. Clopton introduced a series of joint resolutions of the Alabama legislature in relation to the increase of the Army of the Confederate States; which, without being read, were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Clopton also introduced

A bill to increase the efficiency of the Army by the employment of slaves; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to instruct Major-General Joseph Wheeler and Brigadier-General Stephen D. Lee each to send a quartermaster to the First Congressional district of Alabama, with instructions to adjust, according to the principles of an act approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, the unsettled balances due citizens for supplies, etc., furnished their respective commands while they encamped in that district.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Curry presented a series of joint resolutions of the Alabama legislature in reference to taxation and the currency; which, without being read, were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Curry also presented joint resolutions of the Alabama legislature relative to the enforcement of the conscript law; which, without being read, were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Chilton introduced the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, viz:

(1) *Resolved*, That it is expedient to so modify the present tax bill as shall exempt from the tax in kind all produce raised exclusively by white labor, where the head of the family will make affidavit that the produce so raised is required and necessary for the support of such family, and if the whole is not required, that the amount so required shall be specified in the affidavit, and shall be exempted.

(2) *Resolved*, That in all cases where the head of the family, or the person on whom the family is dependent for its subsistence, is in the Army, or has been killed, or wounded, or discharged by reason of sickness incurred while in the service, two cows and calves should be exempt from taxation for the use of such family.

(3) *Resolved*, That the above be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, as instructions to be incorporated in a bill to be reported to this House by said committee.

Mr. Dargan presented a petition from Leslie E. Brooks, praying relief as paymaster on the Chattahoochee; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Hanly introduced

A bill to provide for the ascertaining and settling accounts against the Government in the Trans-Mississippi Department; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Garland moved to take from the Calendar of last session a bill to amend an act to establish judicial courts of the Confederate States, and also a bill to provide for digesting the laws, and be placed upon the Calendar of this session.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Garland introduced

A bill to suppress abuses in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Hanly introduced

A bill to authorize the President to appoint a commissioner to examine and audit certain claims in the State of Arkansas, and to fix the rank, pay, and rations of said commissioner; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hanly introduced the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That one additional page be appointed for the use of this House, with the same pay allowed to other pages.

The resolution was lost.

Mr. Clark presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Dawson County, Ga., praying the establishment of a new post route in said county; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Clark introduced the following preamble and resolution; which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, viz:

Whereas a rumor prevails that great abuses in what is termed commutation exist in the offices attached to the Department of War, in this, that persons performing merely clerical duties, in the Adjutant, Ordnance, and perhaps other offices, who not only receive the pay usually allowed clerks, but in addition thereto are allowed by "commutation" to receive money for room rent, forage for horses, and wood, and further permitted to purchase supplies from the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments at a much cheaper rate than the market price, a process whereby captains, majors, and colonels who are only performing the duties of a twelve or fifteen hundred dollar clerk are actually receiving from the Government pay equal to a major-general in the field: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to call upon those departments and ascertain the facts, and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Singleton presented a joint resolution of the Mississippi legislature, requesting that Congress repeal that part of the conscript act which authorizes substitutes; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Clapp introduced

A bill to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers an asylum, to be called the "Veteran Soldiers' Home;" which was read first and second times, laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Miles presented a communication from the governor of South Carolina, covering resolutions of the legislature of that State relative to impressments.

The message and resolutions were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Simpson presented a memorial from R. Y. Jones, praying relief for Treasury notes destroyed by fire; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of soldiers in the cavalry service being hereafter mounted at the expense of the Government, and promptly resupplied with horses when they chance to die or are otherwise lost without default of the rider.

Mr. Foote also presented sundry letters from persons in the Army upon questions of legislation relative to the Army; which, without being read, were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Wright of Tennessee presented a memorial from General Hardee and others in favor of allowing forage for one horse to each chaplain in the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Wright of Tennessee also introduced

A bill to amend an act approved April 19, 1862, entitled "An act to prohibit the transportation to and sale of certain articles in any port or place within the Confederate States in the possession of the enemy, and to prohibit the sale, barter, or exchange of certain articles therein named, to alien or domestic enemies."

The bill was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Heiskell introduced

A bill to restore the efficiency of the Army;
which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Heiskell also introduced

A bill to protect citizens and noncombatants seized by the enemy;
which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Atkins introduced the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to this House providing for the appointment of one quartermaster and one commissary, each with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, for each division of cavalry and infantry in the service.

Mr. Sexton presented an application of C. J. Field for relief as collector of war tax in Texas; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Sexton also offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire and report to this House whether there is any law or regulation authorizing major or brigadier generals to detail companies of cavalry for personal escorts or bodyguards.

Mr. Sexton also offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, as a testimonial of the appreciation entertained by this House of the gallant and valuable services rendered to the country during the present war by Major-General John B. Hood, the Speaker be instructed to invite him to a seat on the floor of the House.

The Speaker presented a memorial of Capt. George Davis, praying that he be allowed credit for public money stolen from him: which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Garland demanded the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas -----	5
{ Nays -----	48

Yeas: Conrow, Curry, Hanly, Lyons, and Ralls.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, Mences, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was a bill on the Calendar to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers.

The question being on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Kenan of Georgia, upon which the yeas and nays had been ordered,

The vote was recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas -----	32
{ Nays -----	22

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Graham, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, McLean, Mences, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chrisman, Clapp, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Lyons, Machen, Miles, Perkins, Sexton, Simpson, Swan, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Read moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Breckinridge moved that the House adjourn; which motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Elliott demanded the yeas and nays on Mr. Read's motion to reconsider:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas -----	22
{ Nays -----	29

Yeas: Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Dargan, Elliott, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Hanly, Heiskell, Lyons, Machen, Perkins, Read, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Swan, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Freeman, Gaither, Hartridge, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, McLean, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

No quorum voting,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

Adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

NINETEENTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1863.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

No quorum having voted on the last vote taken yesterday,

The Chair ordered a call of the roll, and the following gentlemen answered to their names:

Messrs. Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrow, Currin, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Mr. Speaker.

There being a quorum present,

On motion of Mr. Machen, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Ewing, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

On motion of Mr. H. W. Bruce, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Moore, who was detained from his seat by illness in his family.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Collier, who was detained from his seat by indisposition.

On motion of Mr. Kenan of Georgia, leave of absence was granted his colleagues, Messrs. Gartrell (absent on special business) and Wright (detained from his seat by indisposition).

On motion of Mr. Lyons, it was ordered that the bill for the relief of the families of indigent soldiers be taken from the Calendar of last session and placed on the Calendar of this.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, it was ordered that the bill to grant compensation to the seamen employed on the Merrimac in the battle of March, 1862, be taken from the Calendar of last session and placed on the Calendar of this.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary: which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 164) entitled "An act to repeal an act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals," approved May 1, 1863; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to report a bill to repeal all exemptions from military service now allowed by law to any of the white male residents in the Confederate States between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, except the exemptions for disability and the exemptions of persons holding offices in or under the Confederate and State governments, or employed in State ordnance departments, of ministers of the gospel, and of State troops as now allowed by law; and also to report a bill to regulate details.

Mr. Russell moved to suspend the rule limiting debate on the resolution: which motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of R. H. Lorton, collector of customs for the Richmond district, praying relief from loss incurred by receiving counterfeit Treasury notes; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Chilton presented a communication from Hon. John A. Cuthbert, of Alabama, relative to fees of clerks of district courts; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, a communication from Lieut. Col. H. A. Herbert, Eighth Alabama Volunteers, making suggestions relative to the working of our present army system; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster presented the memorial of T. J. Foster, asserting a claim against the Government; which, without being read, was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Ralls introduced

A bill to provide for the preservation of Government hides; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Hanly introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and troops of his division for the gallantry displayed by them in the battle of Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, on the 27th of November last;

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton presented joint resolution of the Florida legislature relative to the exemption of certain persons from military service; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton also presented joint resolutions of the Florida legislature relative to the tax in kind; which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Hilton also presented joint resolutions of the Florida legislature relative to the pay of the soldiers; which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton also presented a memorial from the adjutants of the various regiments of the Army of Northern Virginia in favor of an increase of pay and rank; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hartridge presented a petition of George Mattweiler, of Effingham, Ga., praying a renewal of certificate of stock destroyed by fire; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Hartridge presented a memorial of certain naval officers, praying an increase of the pay of officers of the Navy; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce presented a communication from Lieut. Benjamin Hardin, touching the reorganization of the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 28th instant the President approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 74. An act entitled "An act to amend so much of section eleven of the tax law as requires one-tenth of the sweet potatoes produced this year to be paid to the Government;" and

H. R. 77. An act entitled "An act authorizing the tax in kind on bacon to be commuted by collection of salt pork as an equivalent."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *December 30, 1863.*

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to inquire and report to this House the cause of the delay in furnishing Congress with printed copies of the report of the Secretary of War.

Mr. Menees moved that the Speaker appoint temporary members of the Committee on Printing during the absence of the regular members; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Villeré presented the memorial of Thomas Murray & Co., of New Orleans, and Criglar, Batchelder & Pooley, of Hunt's Mills, Fla., asserting a claim against the Government for property destroyed; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Clapp moved that the bill to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers an asylum, to be called the "Veteran Soldiers' Home," be taken from the table and referred to a special committee of five members.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Gaither offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law that all persons connected with the railroads and express companies, assistant quartermasters and commissaries, agents and employees of every description, justices of the peace, and militia officers within the age of conscription, be immediately enrolled in the Army; and that the said committee inquire into the propriety of declaring that it shall not be lawful to detail from the military service any person to work in any cotton or woolen factory, forge, furnace, foundry, or any other company or individual enterprise whatsoever, except the Army in the field.

Mr. Davidson presented the petition of sundry citizens of Alamance and Guilford counties, N. C., praying a post-road from Gibsonville, in Guilford County, to Long's Mills, in Randolph County; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, a bill to create an invalid corps; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Simpson introduced

A bill to provide for the reduction of the currency; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Foote introduced

A bill to repeal the act establishing the office of Assistant Secretary of State; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Gardenhire introduced

A bill to indemnify certain losses sustained by the commissioned officers of Gen. Marcus J. Wright's brigade; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President of the Confederate States be requested to inform this House whether orders have been made by commanding officers in the field requiring officers of regiments and companies to pay assessments of damages made by such commanding officers without intervention of courts-martial or boards of survey; and whether such orders are authorized by any statute of the Confederate States; and if not, upon what authority such power is claimed or exercised.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be requested to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for exception out of the operation of the bill providing for the repeal of the existing law in regard to substitutes, in the event of that bill becoming a law, certain classes of persons who have heretofore employed substitutes on such grounds of equitable arrangement as said committee shall deem judicious.

Mr. Graham offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire whether or not under existing laws "noncommissioned officers, privates, musicians, and artificers" in the cavalry service, who have been dismounted by order of their commanding general, are entitled to forty cents a day each for their horses; and if not, to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the payment of the same.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, December 29, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 11th instant, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of the report of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston of his operations in Mississippi during the months of May, June, and July, 1863, together with a copy of the report of Lieut. Gen. J. C. Pemberton of his operations during the same time.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House the following communication from the President, viz:

RICHMOND, December 28, 1863.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of additional reports of military operations of the year 1862, which should have accompanied the report of Gen. R. E. Lee, submitted for your information on the 24th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Printing, viz:

Resolved, That one thousand extra copies of the foregoing communications and accompanying documents be printed for the use of the House.

Mr. Hilton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to [inquire?] what, if any, rule can be adopted with reference to the printing of reports of battles and military operations so as to secure the printing of the more important of the documents in advance of others of less importance, and report by bill or otherwise.

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back the same and asked that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Simpson, from the same committee, to which had been referred the memorial of Capt. Zimmerman Davis, Confederate States Army, asking increased compensation for horses killed in battle or lost in service, reported back the same and asked that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Clapp, from the same committee, to which had been referred the memorial of Mrs. Mary Clark, asking to be indemnified for the loss of a slave, who died from disease contracted while at work on the fortifications around Richmond, reported back the same, accompanied by a report from the committee, and asked that it be laid on the table and printed.

It was so ordered.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 78. An act providing for filling vacancies of Delegates to Congress in certain Indian nations.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 76. An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes.

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 161. An act to repeal an act entitled "An act to regulate the destruction of property under military necessity, and to provide for the indemnity thereof;"

In which bill and amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that, on the 28th instant, he did approve and sign a bill (S. 142) entitled "An act to prevent the enlistment or enrollment of substitutes in the military service of the Confederate States."

The Speaker announced the appointment of the Special Committee on the Veteran Soldiers' Home as follows, viz:

Messrs. Clapp of Mississippi, Curry of Alabama, Vest of Missouri, Chambliss of Virginia, and Swan of Tennessee.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled.

S. 16. A joint resolution in relation to the public printing.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Baldwin, from the Special Committee on the Currency, reported A bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

And the House, on motion of Mr. Kenan, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Lander, he was excused from service on the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, and Mr. Davidson was appointed in his place.

Mr. Heiskell moved that the House adjourn until Saturday, 12 o'clock.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The motion of Mr. Heiskell was lost.

On motion of Mr. Sexton, it was ordered that the Chair appoint temporary members of the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments during the absence of regular members.

The Speaker laid before the House

A bill to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes; which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment, as follows, viz:

Strike out, in line 3, after the word "States," the words "do, therefore," and insert the words "of America do."

Mr. Miles moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill to be referred to a committee; which motion prevailed, and the amendment of the Senate was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill to lie over two days to await a reconsideration.

The motion was agreed to.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Ralls,

Adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, took up for consideration the bill reported in open session by Mr. Baldwin, from the Special Committee on the Currency, to be entitled

An act to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

The bill having been read a first and second time,

Mr. Boyce, from the same committee, by unanimous consent, submitted a minority report and a bill to regulate the currency and provide means for carrying on the Government; which he offered as an amendment to the bill of the committee (in the nature of a substitute).

Mr. Baldwin moved that the bill and amendment be postponed until Monday next, printed, and made the special order for that day, and from day to day after the expiration of the morning hour; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin, from the same committee, reported

A bill to organize the Treasury note bureau; which was read first and second times, postponed until Monday next, ordered to be printed, and made the special order for that day, to be considered after the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Lyon, from the same committee, reported

A bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government; which was read a first and second time, postponed until Monday next, ordered to be printed, and made the special order for that day, to be considered after the bill to organize the Treasury note bureau.

Mr. Dargan moved to reconsider the vote by which it was ordered that the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency be first considered; which motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the further consideration of the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency be conducted in open session.

Mr. Jones moved that the motion of Mr. Baldwin be considered in open session; which motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved that the further consideration of Mr. Baldwin's motion be postponed until Monday next; which motion was not agreed to.

The question recurring on agreeing to the motion of Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Curry demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 24
 { Nays ----- 44

Yeas: Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Gray, Hilton, Jones, Menees, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Dargan, De Jarnette, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Miles, Moore, Preston, Ralls, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the vote just taken; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the motion of Mr. Baldwin was defeated.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved to lay the motion on the table; which latter motion was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz: (Secret) S. 18. Joint resolution explanatory of a joint resolution on the subject of retaliation, approved May 1, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Speaker laid before the House the joint resolution referred to in the message; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. McDowell, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to this House any correspondence with General Whiting relative to the defenses of Wilmington, North Carolina.

Second. That the President be also respectfully requested to inform this House whether any aid can be given by further legislation to the complete defense of that important post.

The House then resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was the bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri.

Mr. Lyons moved to reconsider the vote by which the House agreed to remove the injunction of secrecy from the vote by which the motion of Mr. Baldwin to consider the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency in open session was lost.

Pending which,

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House resolved itself into open session.

So the motion prevailed,

And the Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 12 o'clock to-morrow.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY—SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

Mr. Perkins, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred a Senate bill (S. 160) to authorize the appointment of a Third Auditor of the Treasury, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill relative to duties on imports,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

And it was so ordered.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, reported

A bill to authorize the cancellation of certain Confederate States bonds and the substitution of other bonds for them; which was read a first and second time.

The question on postponing and placing on the Calendar was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, also reported

A bill to authorize the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury west of the Mississippi; which was read a first and second time.

The question on postponing was decided in the negative, and the bill being under consideration,

Mr. Jones moved to amend that part of the first section which reads as follows, viz: "with a salary of thousand dollars," by filling up the blank with the word "three."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Villeré moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the amendment was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Graham, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill appropriating \$100,000 for the use and benefit of the Cherokee Nation,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

It was so ordered.

The Chair announced the appointment of Mr. Smith of Alabama in place of Mr. Barksdale, and Mr. Lewis of Georgia in place of Mr. Wright, as temporary members of the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Graham, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred a communication from Rev. Benjamin Holder in relation to a discovery for preventing the counterfeiting the Confederate notes, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Patents.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Graham, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing the same was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Machen, from the same committee, to which had been referred the memorial of Rev. J. C. White, praying to be refunded a portion of Confederate tax improperly assessed, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Machen, from the same committee, to which had also been referred

A bill to allow the tax in kind of cured bacon to be commuted in certain cases,

reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the forty-second rule was suspended, requiring bills to lie over for two days, awaiting motion to reconsider.

Mr. Swan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to provide for placing in the military service persons claiming to be citizens of the United States,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing the bill was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all white male persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years, claiming to be citizens of any of the States or Territories of the United States, who shall be within the limits of the Confederate States upon or after the first day of May next, shall be subject to military duty under the laws now in force, or which may be hereafter enacted, to provide for the public defense: *Provided*, That the President may exempt from the operation of this act such persons as he may deem proper,

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the bill by striking out the following words:

Provided, That the President may exempt from the operation of this act such persons as he may deem proper.

Pending which,

The morning hour having expired,

Mr. Miles moved that the Calendar be postponed, to allow the consideration of the bill reported from the committee.

The motion to postpone was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, unanimously, a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 21. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Robert E. Lee and to the officers and soldiers under his command;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. De Jarnette, by unanimous consent, introduced the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That Lieutenant-General A. P. Hill be entitled to a privileged seat in this Hall.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute for the bill under consideration):

That all white male persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, not prisoners of war, resident in the Confederate States, and who shall continue so to reside on or after the first day of February next, shall be liable to military service in the Army, without regard to any claim of nonresidence or alienage which they may set up: *Provided, however,* That the President may, upon considerations of equity and justice, or of public necessity, exempt any of such persons: *Provided further,* This act shall not be construed so as to repeal the exemption acts now in force.

Mr. Swan demanded the previous question.

The demand was seconded.

And the question being on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Chilton.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 33
Nays ----- 33

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, Miller, Preston, Read, Singleton, Swan, and Wilcox.

Nays: Ashe, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, McDowell, McLean, Miles, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Heiskell called the question.

Pending which,

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 78. An act providing for filling vacancies of Delegates to Congress in certain Indian nations: also.

H. R. 76. An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia, by unanimous consent, presented a copy of the resolutions of the legislature of Georgia, affirming the constitutional right of Georgia troops in the service of the Confederate States, who were tendered by the governor in response to requisitions of the President, to elect their own officers; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

And the House.

On motion of Mr. Kenan,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. Monday.

TWENTY-THIRD DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 31, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 18th instant, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of the report of Brigadier-General Echols, relating to the battle of Droop Mountain.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Also, another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 31, 1863.*

To the House of Representatives:

In further response to your resolution of the 11th instant, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several reports of military operations.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communications and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chilton moved that the usual number of copies be printed for the use of the House; which motion was referred to the Committee on Printing.

On motion of Mr. Dupré, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Kenner, detained from his seat by indisposition.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 21) of thanks to Gen. Robert E. Lee and to the officers and soldiers under his command; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Chambliss moved that the rule be suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee.

The motion prevailed, and the joint resolution was read a third time and passed unanimously.

Mr. Russell presented the petition of dental surgeons of ten years' practice, asking to be exempted from military service; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Russell introduced

A bill to repeal certain exemptions from military service; which was read a first and second time and, on motion of Mr. Russell, laid upon the table.

Mr. Russell moved that the rule requiring the call of the States be suspended to enable the Committee on Military Affairs to report a bill.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill repealing existing and regulating future exemptions from military service;

which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed upon the Calendar, ordered to be printed, and

On motion of Mr. Miles, made the special order for Wednesday next and each alternate day thereafter during the morning hour in which the States would be called for resolutions, etc.

Mr. Goode introduced

A joint resolution in relation to the war;
which was read a first and second time.

The rule, on motion of Mr. Goode, having been suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee,

Mr. Clapp moved that it be referred to a select committee.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question; which was seconded.

And the question being on the motion of Mr. Clapp to refer to a select committee,

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas..... 42
 { Nays..... 31 [32]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Currin, Curry, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clopton, Conrow, Dargan, De Jarnette, Foote, Freeman, Gardenhire, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Pugh, Simpson, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Boteler called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Clapp moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion prevailed.

The House then went into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 80. An act to continue in force an act entitled "An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named," approved May 1, 1863.

Mr. Clapp moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill to provide for placing in the military service persons claiming to be citizens of the United States was ordered to be engrossed.

And the House,
On motion of Mr. Curry,
Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session.

Mr. Heiskell, under a suspension of the rule, submitted the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Select Committee on Searches and Seizures be instructed to inquire and report upon the treatment of our prisoners at Point Lookout, and that they examine such of the returned prisoners now at Camp Lee as they may deem necessary to the full ascertainment of the facts.

On motion of Mr. Swan, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the resolution just adopted.

Mr. Bell moved that the special order be postponed for the purpose of considering the bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Vest moved to amend the bill by striking out, in the second section, the words "day of June" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Monday in April."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question; which was seconded.
The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Curry demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 57
 Nays ----- 13

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Gaither, Gray, Jones, Lander, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Smith of Alabama, and Smith of North Carolina.

So the bill was passed.

The special order was then taken up for consideration; which was the bill reported by Mr. Baldwin, from the Special Committee on the Currency, to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Lyons to reconsider the vote by which the House removed the injunction of secrecy from the vote by which the motion of Mr. Baldwin to consider the bill in open session was lost,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Jones, it was ordered that the Clerk deliver to the Secretary of the Treasury copies of all the bills reported from the Special Committee on the Currency, and inform him that they were reported in secret session.

Mr. Lyons moved that the House resolve itself into open session for the purpose of considering the bills reported from the Special Committee on the Currency, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 30
Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Goode, Gray, Hilton, Lyons, McQueen, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Currin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miller, Pugh, Ralls, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Vest, Villéré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the vote just taken.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Baldwin, from the Special Committee on the Currency, reported

A bill to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May 1, 1863;

which was read first and second times, postponed, placed upon the Calendar, ordered to be printed, and made the special order to be considered after the other bills reported by said committee.

Mr. Miles moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Vest, the forty-second rule was suspended; which requires bills to lie over two days for reconsideration.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Curry,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill to increase the efficiency of the Army, by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain capacities;

which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed upon the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

The House then resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was the bill reported from the Military Committee to provide

for placing in military service persons claiming to be citizens of the United States.

The question being put,

Shall the question on the passage of the bill be now taken?

Was decided in the negative.

Mr. Clapp moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment to the motion to recommit:

And that the said committee be instructed to report a bill allowing those who claim foreign residence, or to be aliens, ample time to leave the country, and on failure to leave, to be brought into the military service of the country, in the Army.

Mr. Vest gave notice that he would submit the following amendment; which he desired should accompany the bill if it were recommitted:

Provided, That any person subject to the operation of this act, and claiming an exemption by reason of alienage, shall be exempt from military duty upon such person paying into the Treasury two thousand dollars in coin, or its equivalent in foreign exchange.

Pending which,

Mr. Goode, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That Major-General J. E. B. Stuart be, and is hereby, invited to a privileged seat upon this floor during his stay in the city.

Mr. Conrad moved that the Speaker be authorized to appoint a temporary member of the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The motion was agreed to.

The Chair announced the appointment of the select committee to which was referred the joint resolution in relation to the war, as follows, viz:

Messrs. Clapp of Mississippi, Goode of Virginia, Curry of Alabama, Hartridge of Georgia, and Smith of North Carolina.

Mr. Wright of Texas moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 50
Nays ----- 23

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Cur-
rin, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Funsten,
Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston,
Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon,
Machen, Martin, McLean, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh,
Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and
Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boyce, Bridgers, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Farrow,
Foote, Gaither, Goode, Gray, Hilton, Lyons, McQueen, Miles, Perkins,
Preston, Read, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strick-
land, and Welsh.

So the motion prevailed.

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill and joint resolution of the following titles, viz:

S. 173. An act to declare the meaning and intent of the eleventh section of an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863; and

S. 20. Joint resolution of thanks to Major Von Boreke;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

And on motion of Mr. Garland,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill reported by Mr. Baldwin, from the Special Committee on the Currency, to tax, fund, and limit the currency, and is as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, All Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, not bearing interest, issued before the passage of this act, shall, until the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be fundable in six per cent bonds of the Confederate States.

SEC. 2. On and after the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, all such Treasury notes shall be fundable only in four per cent bonds of the Confederate States, and at the following rates, viz: Until the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at par; until the first day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at seventy-five cents in the dollar; until the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at fifty cents in the dollar; and until the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at twenty-five cents in the dollar. All such Treasury notes outstanding on or after the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, shall be deemed to be satisfied and discharged.

SEC. 3. Until the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, all such Treasury notes shall be receivable at par for all Government dues, except export duties; but on and after that day they shall be receivable only at the rates herein provided for the funding thereof. At these rates any person may pay into the Treasury, or to any depository thereof, any sum he may choose on account of taxes, to accrue and become payable before the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and upon such payment shall be entitled to a certificate which shall be receivable in payment of such taxes; but these certificates shall not be transferred, except by special assignment.

SEC. 4. All Treasury notes of the denomination of five dollars and under, issued before the passage of this act, shall continue to be receivable in payment of all public dues, except export duties, but shall not hereafter be fundable. All call loan certificates shall be fundable and receivable upon such terms only as are herein provided for the notes into which they are convertible.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to make a new issue of Treasury notes to an amount not exceeding two hundred millions of dollars, payable two years after a definitive treaty of peace with the United States, and in such form, of such denominations, and with such authentication as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe. When these notes shall be in any manner received into the Treasury they may be reissued, or be substituted by others of like amount, so as not at any time to increase the whole amount in circulation beyond the said sum of two hundred millions of dollars.

SEC. 6. The Treasury notes authorized by the preceding section shall be receivable in payment of all public dues, except such as shall be specially declared to be payable in specie only. They shall be exempt from all taxation; and the faith of the Government is hereby pledged that the entire amount of such notes to be issued under this or any future act shall not exceed the sum of two hundred and fifty millions of dollars at any time.

SEC. 7. To defray the expenses of the Government not otherwise provided for, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue six per cent bonds of the Confederate States to an amount not exceeding five hundred millions of dollars, the principal and interest whereof shall be forever free from all taxation, and for the

payment whereof, principal and interest, the entire net receipts into the Treasury of all duties on imports are hereby specially pledged.

SEC. 8. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to sell these bonds, or such portion of them as may be necessary for Treasury notes of the new issue, at par; and it shall be lawful for any person desiring to purchase such bonds to pay into the Treasury, or to any depository thereof, in Treasury notes of the new issue, the amount he wishes to invest, and to receive therefor a certificate which shall entitle him to demand a bond for the amount with interest from the time of such payment.

SEC. 9. If any deficiency in supplying the demands upon the Treasury shall occur after the first day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and sales of these bonds can not be made at par, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to make sales, at such prices as he can obtain, of an amount sufficient to supply such deficiency.

SEC. 10. The bonds authorized by this act may be either registered or coupon bonds, as the parties taking them may elect, and they may be exchanged for each other under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe. They shall be for one hundred dollars or for some multiple of one hundred, and shall be in such form and with such authentication as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe. The interest shall be payable half yearly on the first day of January and July in each year; the principal shall be payable not less than thirty years from their date, but the Government may, at any time after five years from their date, pay them at its pleasure.

SEC. 11. After the fifteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, it shall be lawful for any bank or other party having on deposit or in custody any Treasury notes of the property of another, and subject to the provisions of the first, second, and third sections of this act, to fund the same on account and for the use of the owner.

SEC. 12. Wherever in this act a time is limited for the doing of anything relative to the funding or receiving of Treasury notes under the first, second, third, and fourth sections, two months additional time shall be allowed therefor in those parts of the Confederacy west of the Mississippi River, but the certificates mentioned in the third section shall not in any case be received for taxes becoming payable after the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-four.

SEC. 13. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to increase the number of depositories so as to meet the requirements of this act, and with that view to employ such of the banks in the several States as he may deem expedient.

SEC. 14. The Secretary of the Treasury shall forthwith advertise this act in such newspapers published in the several States as will secure immediate and extended publicity, and the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy will each cause it to be published in general orders for the information of the Army and Navy.

SEC. 15. The issue of Treasury notes, except as herein provided for, is hereby prohibited; and the forty-second section of the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, is hereby repealed.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Boyce, which is as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That the taxes falling due after the first day of January, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, except the duties on exports, be, and the same are hereby, made payable in specie, or in tax certificates hereafter to be issued, or in the outstanding Treasury notes, at their specie value.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue tax certificates, in anticipation of the taxes for two years.

SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to issue bonds, bearing six per cent interest, payable semiannually, their redemption to be secured by a pledge of specific taxes, the interest to be paid in tax certificates at their specie value, said bonds to be free from taxation, which bonds the Secretary of the Treasury may, from time to time, as the public exigencies may require, sell for what they will bring in tax certificates, or use for the liquidation of any indebtedness by the Government, when the same may be practicable.

SEC. 4. That the authority heretofore granted to the Secretary of the Treasury to issue Treasury notes is withdrawn.

SEC. 5. That the outstanding Treasury notes are no longer fundable except at their specie value.

SEC. 6. That the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized, whenever he may think expedient, to sell, from time to time, for tax certificates, any cotton, tobacco, or naval stores belonging to the Government, which may not otherwise be required for the public service,

Mr. Swan submitted the following amendment to the amendment; which, on motion of Mr. Garland, was ordered to be printed:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States do enact*, That for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and twenty-nine years thereafter, there shall be levied an annual tax of five-sixths of one per centum.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the value of real estate shall be assessed under this act as follows: If within five years from the date of the passage of this act real estate has been sold, then its assessed value shall be the price paid by the last purchaser; if it has not been so sold, then it shall be assessed at its market value on first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty.

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the owner of real estate may, on or before the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, pay to the tax collector for his county, parish, or district the tax hereby levied, or at his option execute a bond, in such form as the Secretary of the Treasury may direct, for the amount of said tax, in which bond it shall be stipulated that it shall be payable on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-five; that it shall bear interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, payable semiannually, on first days of January and July of each year, and further, that on the first day of January of each year there shall be paid one per centum as a sinking fund, which sinking fund, so paid, shall be held and deemed, when said bond shall become due and payable, to have fully paid and discharged the same.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That for securing the payment of the tax herein levied, or of the bond which, under this act, may be executed for its payment, there is, by virtue of this act, created a lien upon all real estate herein taxed, in favor of the Confederate States of America, superior to all other liens, mortgages, or incumbrances of any kind whatever.

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That if there be a failure on the part of the owner until the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to report to the proper assessor or collector his real estate for taxation, or to pay said tax, or failing in that to execute the bond hereinbefore in such cases required to be given, or when given to pay the interest and sinking fund required by this act to be paid, at the time payable, then said real estate, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay said bond and the interest and sinking fund shall be sold at public sale to the highest bidder, after such notice of the time and place of sale as is directed in such cases by the laws of the State in which the real estate may be. The title conveyed to the purchaser by the tax collector under any such sale shall be held by all courts to be valid and indefensible.

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That bonds executed by owners of real estate, as directed by this act, shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Treasury, to be held or sold by him as he, in his discretion, may deem best. If sold, he shall indorse thereon the guaranty of the Confederate States that said bonds, together with the accruing interest and sinking fund, shall be promptly paid: *Provided*, Said bonds shall not be sold for less than their par value.

SEC. 7. *Be it further enacted*, That whether the bonds remain in the Treasury or be sold, still the payment thereof, in whole or in part, together with interest and sinking fund, shall be made to the Treasury, and the option is given to the obligor of the bond to pay the bond, in whole or in part, at any time before the same is due. If such payment be made, it shall stop after accruing interest and sinking fund upon the amount so paid. The sum so paid shall be credited to the holder of the bond, and notice thereof shall be published in two newspapers printed at the capital.

SEC. 8. *Be it further enacted*, That real estate taxed under and by virtue of this act shall not again be taxed for the payment of any portion of the public debt now existing.

SEC. 9. The following exemptions from taxations, under this act, shall be allowed, to wit:

I. Real estate of each head of a family to the value of five hundred dollars, and for each minor child living in the family to the further value of one hundred dollars, and for each son actually engaged in the Army or Navy, or who has died or been killed in the military or naval service, and who was a member of the family when he entered the service, to the further value of five hundred dollars.

II. Real estate of the widow of any officer, soldier, sailor, or marine who may have died or been killed in the military or naval service, or where there is no widow, then of the family, being minor children, to the value of two thousand dollars.

III. Real estate of every officer, soldier, sailor, or marine actually engaged in the military or naval service, to the value of two thousand dollars.

IV. The real estate of the States of the Confederacy, and of municipal corporations held for public purposes, and the real estate of hospitals, asylums, churches, and schools.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was not ordered.

Mr. Lyon moved to amend the first section of the bill as follows, viz: In third line, strike out the words "not bearing interest."

The House,

On motion of Mr. Garland,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Read.

The special order was taken up for consideration; which was the bill reported by Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, repealing existing and regulating future exemptions from military service.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That from and after the passage of this act all acts and parts of acts exempting persons from military service be, and the same are hereby, repealed, except in so far as they relate to officers of the Confederate and State governments; and hereafter no other persons shall be exempt from such service than the following, to wit: All who shall be held to be unfit for military service, under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War, and such other persons as the said Secretary, with the approval of the President, may deem it expedient to exempt in view of the fact—which must be satisfactorily established—that such persons can, by their skill, labor, occupation, or employment, better subserve the vital interests of the country and contribute more substantially to its defense outside of the Army than in its ranks: *Provided*, That even in such cases absolute exemptions from military service shall not be granted, if, in the opinion of the Secretary of War, the same end can be attained by regularly enrolling and detailing for specific times and stated purposes the persons whose skill, labor, occupation, or employment may make their services more valuable out of than in the actual ranks of the Army,

Mr. Miles moved to amend as follows, viz: In the sixth line, after the word "persons," insert the words "between the ages prescribed by law for military service."

Pending which,

Mr. Freeman, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 80. An act to continue in force an act entitled "An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named," approved May 1, 1863.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The Chair appointed Mr. Munnerlyn of Georgia a temporary member of the Committee on Naval Affairs, in place of Mr. Wright.

Mr. Funsten, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A bill to provide for disabled officers, noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, and seamen; which was read a first and second time, laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Singleton, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A bill for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases; which was read a first and second time.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Goode, Graham, Hart-

ridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Foote moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Conrad submitted the following amendment as a substitute for the first section of the bill:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That all Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, issued before the passage of this act, shall, until the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be fundable in six per cent bonds of the Confederate States, payable in twenty-five years, except those in which the interest-bearing notes shall be funded, which shall bear the rate of interest and be payable at the times specified on the face of said notes. Each holder of notes presented for funding before said date shall be entitled to demand that a proportion of the notes so presented by him, not exceeding twenty per cent thereof, be repaid to him in the notes of the new issue hereinafter mentioned, at the rate of one dollar of the new notes for two dollars of the old.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Kenan,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY—THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Read.

The House resumed the consideration of unfinished business of yesterday; which was the motion of Mr. Boyce to suspend the rules to enable him to offer a resolution.

The yeas and nays having been ordered on said motion,

Are recorded as follows, viz:	{ Yeas -----	27
	{ Nays -----	30

Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Collier, Crockett, De Jarnette, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Hartridge, Hilton, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McLean, Perkins, Pugh, Singleton, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Burnett, Clapp, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Hanly, Kenan of Georgia, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Curry, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Clopton.

On motion of Mr. McLean, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Ashe.

Mr. Lyons moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution, and thereon demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 37
 } Nays ----- 24

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dupré, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, Martin, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Dargan, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Gray, Heiskell, Kenan of Georgia, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, Moore, Perkins, Read, Sexton, Simpson, and Staples.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Hanly, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill appropriating \$100,000 for the use and benefit of the Cherokee Nation,

under a suspension of the rules, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and the vote on its passage being taken by yeas and nays, as required by the Constitution,

Is recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 66
 } Nays ----- 1

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Smith of Alabama.

So the bill was passed.

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas, the forty-second rule was suspended, requiring bills to lie over two days for reconsideration.

Mr. Baldwin moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was lost.

The Chair laid before the House a joint resolution of the Senate to be entitled

S. 20. Joint resolution of thanks to Major Von Boreke; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill

S. 173. A bill to declare the meaning and intent of the eleventh section of an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863.

The bill having been read a first and second time.

Mr. Goode moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill to be referred to a committee.

The motion was lost, and the bill was referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

** Resolved*, That a committee of three members be appointed to examine into the charge of corruption against a member of this House, which appeared in the Examiner this morning.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill to provide for placing in the military service persons claiming to be citizens of the United States.

Pending which,

The morning hour having expired,

Mr. Chilton moved that the consideration of the special order be postponed to enable him to offer a resolution, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	43
Nays	29

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McLean, Menees, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas,

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Boteler, Burnett, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, McDowell, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, and Vest.

So the motion prevailed, and

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That when this House adjourns to-day it adjourn to meet at ten o'clock to-morrow.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Curry, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 160. An act to authorize the appointment of a Third Auditor of the Treasury; also,

S. 21. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Robert E. Lee and to the officers and soldiers under his command.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 5th instant, approve and sign a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 16. Joint resolution in relation to the public printing.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House (H. R. 83) entitled "An act to authorize the cancellation of certain Confederate States bonds, and the substitution of others for them."

On motion of Mr. McQueen, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Miles.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Garland,

Adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the first section of the bill by striking out, in the fourth line, the word "March."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gardenhire moved to amend the first section by striking out the words "until the first day of," in the fourth line.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the first section by striking out, in fourth line, the word "six" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "four," and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

{	Yeas	19
{	Nays	50

Yeas: Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Crockett, Curry, Farrow, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Hanly, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Gaither, Goode, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Lyon offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the bill under consideration, together with the bill to lay taxes, be recommitteed to the special committee with instructions—

First. To provide for a tax of fifty per cent upon the outstanding circulation.

Second. To lay taxes on property, profits, incomes, trades, professions, credits, etc., sufficient, in addition to the tax in kind, to raise, under the act of eighteen hundred and sixty-three and the new act, an amount sufficient to absorb the remainder of the currency outstanding.

Third. To authorize a new issue of Treasury notes to the amount of two hundred million dollars.

Fourth. For any deficit in meeting the expenses of the Government for eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to authorize the issue of _____ dollars in six per cent coupon bonds, to be exempt from taxation, with a pledge of impost duties to secure payment of principal and interest.

Pending which,

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution as a privileged question:

Resolved, That the Doorkeeper of this House be directed to regulate the ventilating and heating of the Hall so as to preserve a temperature not higher than sixty-two degrees, Fahrenheit's thermometer.

Mr. Machen moved to lay the resolution on the table.
The motion prevailed.
And the House,
On motion of Mr. Garland,
Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY—FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The Chair announced the appointment of the Select Committee to Examine into the Outrages of the Enemy in North Carolina, under the resolution of Mr. Smith, as follows, viz:

Messrs. Smith of North Carolina, Holcombe of Virginia, Smith of Alabama, H. W. Bruce of Kentucky, and Vest of Missouri.

Also, the select committee under Mr. Foote's resolution to inquire into the charge of corruption preferred against a member of this House, viz:

Messrs. Lyons of Virginia, McQueen of South Carolina, and Atkins of Tennessee.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill repealing existing and regulating future exemptions from military service.

Mr. Welsh moved to postpone the special order.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to postpone was lost.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Miles,
It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Singleton submitted the following amendment:

In section 1, line 5, after the word "Government," insert the words "to physicians who had been for five years continuously next before eleventh day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in the actual practice of their profession, and who have since continued in said practice; and to every minister of the gospel authorized to preach according to his sect, and who was on the said eleventh day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in the regular discharge of his ministerial duties and who has continued in the discharge of such duties to the present time."

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the amendment as follows, viz: Add at the end thereof the following:

Provided, however, That this act shall not in any wise repeal the existing law exempting certain persons for the benefit of the postal service.

Mr. Staples moved to recommit the bill and amendments to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster called the question.

Pending which,

The morning hour having expired,

Mr. Jones moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

The motion was agreed to, and

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

An act to authorize the cancellation of certain Confederate States bonds, and the substitution of others for them.

And the Speaker signed the same.

By unanimous consent of the House the following bills, resolutions, memorials, communications, petitions, etc., were introduced, adopted, and referred, viz:

By Mr. Jones: A bill for the relief of Capt. Jos. A. McRady; read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Atkins: A bill to increase the effective force of the Provisional Army of the Confederate States; read first and second times, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

By Mr. Staples: The memorial of A. Mahood, of Mercer County, Va., praying payment for houses destroyed by order of the commanding officer of Confederate forces; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Swan: A communication from L. T. Hardy, formerly captain Company A, Fourth Tennessee Infantry, asserting a claim; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Holcombe: The petition of Thomas Fox and other children of Thomas Fox, deceased, praying the passage of an act relinquishing the claim of Confederate Government to part of decedent's estate; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Baldwin: Memorial of Alexander F. Kinney, asking relief from losses in receiving counterfeit Treasury notes since January 1, 1863; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Hartridge: Memorial of Surg. J. R. Read in reference to hospitals; referred to the Committee on the Medical Department.

By Mr. Dupré: A series of petitions from persons in the States west of the Mississippi, praying that Treasury notes be made a legal tender; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. H. W. Bruce: Memorial of Z. McDaniel, inventor of "improvement in torpedoes," praying for relief, etc.; referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Chambliss: The following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the propriety of requiring some suitable badge to be prepared and presented to each officer and soldier who has been continuously in the service since the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one, as a mark of distinction for his fidelity and valor in the present war.

By Mr. Farrow: Memorial of H. A. C. Walker and others, a committee on behalf of the South Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, praying that rations of a private and forage for one horse be allowed to missionaries laboring in the Army; referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Hanly: A bill to authorize the appointment of an auditor for the Trans-Mississippi Department, to define his duties and fix his salary; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Baldwin: A resolution; which was adopted as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs inquire into the expediency—

1. Of establishing in the Army a separate department of inspection and censorship, to be commanded by an officer of the rank of general.

2. Of so organizing this department as to make it, in the selection of its officers and agents and in its whole operations, entirely independent of all the other departments of the Army and responsible alone to its own chief and the Secretary of War.

3. Of charging this department with the duty of investigating, detecting, exposing, and prosecuting all offenses in the Army and in all its departments, by whomsoever committed.

4. Of authorizing this department to compel the discharge of duty on the part of any officer by suspension from office or stoppage of pay.

Also, another resolution, adopted as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means inquire what additional legislation is necessary to enable the accounting departments of the Government to keep pace with the other public business, so as to avoid the delays which now annoy all persons having dealings with the Government and impair the public credit.

By Mr. Macwillie: A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Territory of Arizona;" read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Territories, with instructions to report in secret session.

By Mr. Singleton: A bill to authorize free white male citizens of the Confederate States, fourteen years of age and upward, to carry the mails; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

By Mr. Lyons: The petition of William R. Vaughan, administrator of W. S. Smith, deceased, praying payment for the loss of a slave while in the service of the Confederate States; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Perkins: The following resolutions; which were adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for a permanent military escort for transportation across the Mississippi River, which shall be organized like the Signal Corps for independent and special service and composed of men selected for their daring and familiarity with the localities.

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the auditing of claims in the Trans-Mississippi Department, without the necessity of transmitting the evidence of such claims to the city of Richmond.

By Mr. Boudinot: A bill to pay claims of deceased officers and soldiers of the Indian Territory; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. Hartridge: A bill to prohibit the appointment, as volunteer aids, of persons liable to military service; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Hartridge: Memorial of G. T. G. White, praying relief for loss of Confederate bonds; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Heiskell: Communication from John M. Carmack, asserting a claim; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Sexton: A bill to provide additional compensation for the soldiers of the Army of the Confederate States and for the families of those who die in the service; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

By Mr. Gaither: The following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of declaring by law that all persons, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, who have furnished substitutes in the Army, shall be considered in the military service (except those who have substitutes now in the service not liable to conscription), and all such persons who remove from the limits of the Confederate States shall be declared deserters from the service and punished as such: *And further to provide*, That all the property, both real and personal, of such deserters shall be confiscated to the use of the Confederate States, and that all sales and transfers of property made in contemplation of such desertion shall be void and of no effect.

By Mr. Menees: Communication from James M. Avent on the subject of remuneration for cotton burned; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Arrington: Memorial of Mrs. Pennington, asking compensation for damage sustained from Yankee prisoners.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: On the 6th instant the President approved and signed an act entitled H. R. 80. An act to continue in force an act entitled "An act to provide for the compensation of certain persons therein named," approved May 1, 1863.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That when this House adjourns to-day it will adjourn to meet to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

Mr. Hilton called the question.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Sexton,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Pugh, from the Special Committee on the Currency, reported

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863;

which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed on the Calendar, made the special order to be considered after the other bills reported from said committee, and ordered to be printed.

The special order was then taken up for consideration; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Lyon as follows, viz: Add at the end thereof the following:

The committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of laying a tax upon Confederate bonds equal to the tax upon Treasury notes.

Mr. Atkins demanded the previous question.

Mr. Gray moved a call of the House; which was ordered, and the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, E. M. Bruce, H. W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Present, 70.

On motion of Mr. Jones, further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

The question being,

Shall the main question be now put?

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 27
 } Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boyce, Chambliss, Clapp, Dupré, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gardenhire, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, McLean, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Singleton, Strickland, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Swan, and Trippe.

So the demand was not sustained.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and being put, on the amendment of Mr. Foster, was decided in the negative.

Mr. Lyons submitted the following amendment to the resolution of Mr. Lyon (as a substitute for the instructions):

To report a bill with the following provisions:

"1. To compel all the holders of Treasury notes to fund the same without impairment of the principal thereof in Confederate bonds, payable thirty years after date, with such interest as the said notes now bear or were entitled to, the interest to commence six months after a treaty of peace with the United States shall be concluded, and to prohibit the circulation of all unfunded notes as currency.

"2. To authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to sell, as the necessities of the Government may require him, bonds of the Confederate Government to the amount of millions of dollars, the said bonds to be in such sums as the Secretary may deem necessary, from twenty dollars upward, and to bear interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, and be payable thirty years after date.

"3. To authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue, as the necessities of the Government may require it, Treasury notes to the amount of two hundred millions of dollars, in sums of not less than one hundred dollars."

And also to report a bill imposing such taxes as will pay the interest of the public debt and defray the ordinary expenses of the Government.

Pending which.

The House,

On motion of Mr. Atkins,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY—SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Jones, under a suspension of the rules, submitted the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be permitted to report at any time.

The House then resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was the bill to provide for placing in the military service persons claiming to be citizens of the United States.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Chilton to the motion of Mr. Clapp to recommit the bill,

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 37
 { Nays ----- 29 [30]

Yeas: Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Hanly, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Moore, Preston, Pugh, Read, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Eli M. Bruce, Freeman, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Freeman, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the motion to recommit.

Mr. Machen called the question: which was ordered, and the motion was agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., January 7, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting an estimate of the amount necessary for the payment of the interest on the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina.

I recommend an appropriation of the sum specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House the following communications from the President; which, together with the accompanying documents, were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed:

RICHMOND, VA., January 7, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several additional reports of military operations.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., January 7, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of the report of Brig. Gen. R. S. Ripley, of operations from August 21 to September 10, 1863.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., January 7, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several additional reports of military operations.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Heiskell moved that the usual number of extra copies of said reports be printed for the use of the House; which motion was referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from Brig. Gen. Henry A. Wise on the subject of the reorganization of the Army; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864; which was referred to the Committee of the Whole and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clapp, from the select committee to which had been referred the joint resolution in relation to the war, under a suspension of the rules, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the joint resolution and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being,

Shall the joint resolution now pass?

Mr. Clapp demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 67
 Nays ----- 0

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: None.

So the joint resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. Clapp, from the same committee, reported the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Senate be, and is hereby, requested to appoint a committee of to act jointly with the select committee appointed by the House, for the purpose of preparing, on behalf of Congress, an address to the country.

By unanimous consent the following memorials, resolutions, etc., were presented, adopted, and referred:

By Mr. Atkins: Memorial of Moses H. Wright, colonel commanding arsenal at Atlanta, on the condition of the country; referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

By Mr. Boteler: The memorials of Jasper Hawes, of Eleventh Virginia Cavalry, asking compensation for a horse unavoidably lost in the public service, and John McKown and others, asking payment for certain horses purchased for the use of Colonel McDonald's cavalry; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Clopton: Memorial of clerks in Bureau of Subsistence, asking privilege to purchase clothing at Government prices; referred to the Committee on Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments.

By Mr. Curry: Resolution that the Committee on the Judiciary inquire into the expediency of some additional legislation, making it a cause for the sequestration of the property of every male person, between the ages of 18 and 45 years, who resided in any of the Confederate States on the 1st day of December, 1863, and who may have left his place of residence since that day and gone out of the reach of our laws in relation to military service.

By Mr. Garnett: The following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be requested to report what progress has been made in collecting the tax imposed by the first section of the tax act of last session, and the amount of the same assessed or collected in the cities of Richmond, Augusta, Charleston, and Mobile.

By Mr. Moore: The following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be, and he is hereby, requested to cause to be furnished to this House a statement showing the number of persons engaged as employees of the Government in the various passport offices in the Confederate States, the ages of such persons, their places of residence before the commencement of the present war, the number not liable to military duty from physical disability or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Hilton, it was ordered that any member who was absent when the vote was taken on the passage of the joint resolution in relation to the war might record his vote at any time during the session of the day.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Chambliss, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President has to-day approved and signed an act entitled H. R. 83. An act to authorize the cancellation of certain Confederate States bonds, and the substitution of others for them.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 8th instant, approve and sign an act and a joint resolution of the following titles, viz:

S. 160. An act to authorize the appointment of a Third Auditor of the Treasury; and
S. 21. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Robert E. Lee and to the officers and soldiers under his command.

Mr. Foote moved that the bills reported from the Special Committee on the Currency be considered in open session.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Dupré,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Dargan, from the Special Committee on the Foreign Cotton Loan, under a suspension of the rules, reported

A bill to ratify and confirm a contract entered into by the Secretary of the Treasury, on the part of the Confederate States, and Messrs. Emile Erlanger & Co.;

which was read a first and second time, postponed, and placed upon the Calendar.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House entitled

(Secret) H. R. 86. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order, viz: The bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, the resolution of Mr. Lyon to recommit the bill, the amendment of Mr. Lyons to the resolution, and a proposition on finance presented by Mr. Russell, were ordered to be printed.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Johnston,

Resolved itself into open session.

TWENTY-NINTH DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Edwards, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Speaker laid before the House resolutions of the Georgia legislature "expressive of the determination of Georgia to prosecute the present war with the utmost vigor and energy;" which were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Swan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill for the benefit of citizens and noncombatants seized by the enemy, reported the same back and asked that the committee be discharged from its further consideration and that it be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina, by unanimous consent, moved that the special committee to investigate the outrages of the enemy in North Carolina be authorized to send for persons and papers.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Atkins, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That Major-General John C. Breckinridge be invited to a privileged seat on this floor during his stay in this city.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill repealing existing and regulating future exemptions from military service.

The question being on the call of the question by Mr. Foster.

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Clapp to recommit the bill,

Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to recommit was agreed to.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Hilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the House ordered the bill repealing existing and regulating future exemptions from military service to be recommitted.

Mr. Davidson, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments be instructed to report a bill providing for the allowance of rations to the soldiers on detailed service, at Government prices.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be, and he is hereby, requested to communicate to this House what progress has been made in the collection and distribution of "tax in kind" under the act approved twenty-fourth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, together with such information relating to the practical operation of the law as may be possessed by the Quartermaster's Department, in charge of the subject.

On motion,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House the bill (H. R. 86) to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

Strike out all of the first section after the enacting clause and insert the following: "That the elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri may be held as follows, until the legislature of said State shall otherwise direct: That each voter shall be allowed to vote one ticket containing the name of one person for each one of the seven Congressional districts of said State, and the persons receiving the highest number of votes for the respective districts shall be commissioned as Representatives by the governor of said State."

Strike out, in line 3, section 2, the word "April" and insert "May,"

Mr. Vest moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill and amendments to be referred to a committee; which motion was agreed to.

And the question being put,

Shall the House concur in the amendments of the Senate? .

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Vest moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the bill.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Pugh moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Singleton moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Singleton offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That for the remainder of the session of this House no member shall speak more than once, nor longer than thirty minutes, upon any bill, resolution, or proposition which may come before it, unless he has introduced the same or reported it from a committee, in which case he shall be allowed ten minutes for reply.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the resolution by striking out the word "thirty" and inserting "twenty."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was not agreed to.

The question recurring on the resolution,

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	47
Nays	29

Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Currin, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lyons, Martin, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Simpson, and Staples.

Two-thirds of the members present not voting in the affirmative, the resolution was not agreed to.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Lyon to recommit the bill with instructions as follows, viz: Strike out "fifty" and insert "sixty-six and two-thirds;" add after the word "circulation" the words "with the privilege to the holders of exchanging the balance for notes of the new issue."

Pending which,

Mr. Garnett presented a proposition on finance; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chilton also submitted a proposition on finance; which was ordered to be printed.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTIETH DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Ingram, the newly elected member from the Third Congressional district of Georgia, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Holt, appeared, was duly qualified, and took his seat.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., January 11, 1864.

To the House of Representatives:

In partial response to your resolution of the 11th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, showing "the number of officers and men, including the police and mounted guard employed in executing the conscript law," in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Further information on the subject will be furnished when received.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., January 11, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Attorney-General, containing an estimate of an additional sum required by the Department of Justice.

I recommend that an appropriation be made of the amount specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Boyce, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A bill to continue in force the provisions of an act therein named; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Boyce moved to suspend the forty-second rule, requiring bills to lie over two days for reconsideration.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Goode, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That a special committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the impressment for the use of the Army of a share of the pork and bacon held by all persons in the country who have a full supply for the year on hand, said impressment to be made at prices to be agreed upon or to be fixed by local appraisers, without appeal.

Mr. Wilcox introduced

A bill to authorize commanders of corps and departments to detail field officers as members of courts-martial under certain circumstances; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; also

A bill to authorize the President to assign judges of courts-martial from one court to another; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; also

A bill to authorize the President to appoint quartermasters and commissaries to armies, corps, and divisions, and to fix their rank; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hartridge offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House whether authority has been granted by the War Department to any person or persons to raise new com-

panies, battalions, or regiments of troops since September twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in portions of the country in which the conscript law has not been suspended by the President; and further, if such authority has been granted, to whom and in how many instances it has been granted and how many companies, battalions, or regiments have been raised under such authority.

Mr. Chambliss presented a communication from the officers and privates of the Ninth Virginia Regiment of Infantry, Barton's brigade, touching the condition of their families; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Russell offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Elections inquire into the expediency of authorizing the citizens of Maryland serving in the Army to elect a Delegate to this House, with rights similar to those conferred on Delegates from the Territory of Arizona and from the Indian nations, and without the power to vote.

The resolution was lost.

Mr. Holcombe presented the memorial of certain citizens of Virginia, suggesting amendments to the Confederate tax bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Villeré offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs inquire whether the vessels constructed for harbor defense are adapted to the purpose, and if not, whether any steps have been taken to improve those now in process of construction.

Mr. Wilcox, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill to provide for the payment of horses captured, killed, or permanently disabled in the service; which was read a first and second time.

And the question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That from and after the passage of this act, if any regular or volunteer, field or staff, or other commissioned officer or private in the military service of the Confederate States shall sustain damage, without any fault or neglect on his part, while in the regular and proper discharge of his duty, by the loss of a horse in battle, or by the loss of a horse wounded in battle, or permanently disabled by wounds and abandoned by order of his commanding officer, or who shall sustain damage by the capture of a horse in battle, or by an unavoidable accident, or by abandonment by order, or because the rider or owner was dismounted or separated from his horse and ordered to duty in a field or station detached from his horse, or by the loss of the usual and necessary equipage in consequence of the loss of his horse as aforesaid, shall be allowed and paid the value of his horse and equipage according to the appraised value thereof at the time of muster into service, under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That horses disabled in action or by unavoidable accident, so as to be unfit for service whilst the rider or owner was in the proper discharge of his duty, shall be turned over to the quartermaster of his post, company, battalion, regiment, brigade, or division, to be sold for the benefit of the Confederate States,

Mr. Boteler submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That any regular or volunteer field, staff, or other commissioned officer, or mounted volunteer, ranger, cavalry or mounted militia [man], engaged in the military service of the Confederate States since the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, who has or shall sustain damage, without any fault or negligence on his part, whilst in the regular and proper discharge of his duty, by the loss of a horse killed in battle, or which having been wounded in battle has since died or become permanently

disabled by said wound, or being so wounded, shall have been or shall be consequently abandoned by order of his immediate commanding officer and lost, or who shall sustain damage by the loss of a horse by an unavoidable accident or capture, or by abandonment by order of his immediate commanding officer, or because the rider or owner was dismounted or separated from his horse by order of his officer, and on duty in the field or station detached from his horse, or by the loss of the usual and necessary equipage in consequence of the loss of his horse as aforesaid, shall be allowed and paid the value thereof, which shall be ascertained by satisfactory evidence, under rules and regulations furnished by the Secretary of War, according to the appraised value at the time of their muster into service.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That horses disabled in action, or by other casualties of the service whilst the soldier is in the regular and proper discharge of his duty, shall be turned over to the quartermaster of his post, regiment, brigade, or division, as the case may be, to be sold for the benefit of the Confederate States, and their owners shall be allowed compensation for them according to their appraised value, under the rules to be prescribed as aforesaid.

Mr. Burnett submitted the following amendment to the amendment:

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*: That any regular or volunteer field, staff, or other commissioned officer, mounted volunteer, ranger, cavalry or mounted militia man, engaged in the military service of the Confederate States since the fifth of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, who has or shall sustain damage, without any fault or negligence on his part, while in said service, by the loss of a horse killed in battle, or by the loss of a horse wounded in battle, which has died or shall die of said wound, or shall have been or shall be permanently disabled by said wound and thereby rendered unfit for service, or being so wounded, shall have been or shall be abandoned by order of his immediate commanding officer and lost, shall be allowed and paid the value thereof.

On motion of Mr. Wilcox, the bill and amendments were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wilcox, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill providing for the payment of certified accounts in the Trans-Mississippi Department, reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

It was so ordered.

Also, a bill to provide the appointment of a commissioner of accounts for the Trans-Mississippi Department, with the same recommendation; which was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill authorizing chaplains in certain cases to draw forage for one horse,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question on postponing was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That chaplains in the Army in actual service in the field shall be entitled to draw forage for one horse,

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend by adding at the end the following, viz:

Provided, The chaplain has a horse in his use.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. Goode demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 7
 { Nays 55 [58]

Yeas: Chrisman, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Kenan of Georgia, Pugh, and Smith of Alabama.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Farrow submitted the following amendment:

Add at end the following: "And any regular minister of any one of the denominations, who may be regularly assigned by the authority of their church, may, by order of the commander of the brigade, be entitled to the rations of a soldier and to draw forage for one horse."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garland moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Upon which Mr. Machen demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Farrow,

Mr. Curry called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was not agreed to.

The question recurring on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time,

Mr. Curry called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 88. An act to continue in force the provisions of an act therein named.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The Chair laid before the House a message from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 12, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting "the condensed estimates of appropriations required for the support of the Government for the period from January 1 to June 30, 1864, inclusive." It was intended that these estimates should accompany my message of the 7th ultimo, but they seem to have failed to reach the committees.

I recommend that appropriations be made of the sums specified for the purposes indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills and a joint resolution of the following titles, viz:

S. 144. An act to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session;

S. 172. A bill to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the Executive Departments at Richmond for a limited period;

S. 179. A bill making allowances to officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, under certain circumstances, and to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization of the Navy," approved March 16, 1861;

S. 178. A bill to provide payment for certain printing therein mentioned, done by authority of the two Houses of Congress; and

S. 22. Joint resolution for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 179) making allowances to officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, under certain circumstances, and to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization of the Navy," approved March 16, 1861; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 172) to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the Executive Departments at Richmond for a limited period; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 178) to provide payment for certain printing therein mentioned, done by authority of the two Houses of Congress; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Printing.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 144) to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, a Senate joint resolution (S. 22) for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Garnett, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate any orders or regulations establishing a domestic passport system for citizens, whether men or women, traveling within the Confederate States outside the line of any army, the authority under which such order or regulations are made, and the number and compensation of the officers and men employed in administering and enforcing such system of domestic passports.

Mr. Dargan introduced

A bill to regulate the fees of district attorneys, clerks, and marshals of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill entitled

H. R. 88. An act to continue in force the provisions of an act therein named.

And the Speaker signed the same.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Miller, detained from his seat by indisposition.

Mr. Wilcox moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion was agreed to.

The House having taken a recess until 7.30 o'clock, reassembled at that hour, and on motion of Mr. Perkins, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Foote moved to reconsider the vote by which the House referred the Senate joint resolution for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi, to the Committee on Claims.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Foote moved that said joint resolution be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Pugh moved that when the House adjourn it adjourn to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Elliott moved that the House adjourn; which motion was lost.

The motion of Mr. Pugh was agreed to, and

The House, on motion of Mr. Pugh, adjourned.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Smith of Alabama, by unanimous consent, presented a proposition on the currency; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Pugh, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That at two o'clock to-day the vote shall be taken on the resolution to recommit the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Pugh called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the resolution was adopted.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order (the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency).

Mr. Lyon, by consent, modified his resolution so as to substitute in lieu thereof the following, viz:

Resolved, That the bill be recommitted to the committee, with instructions to report a bill—

First. To provide for a tax of fifty per cent on the outstanding circulation and for funding the remainder.

Second. To lay taxes on property, credits, and profits, and to continue the tax on incomes, trades, professions, etc., and the tax in kind, so as to aid in supporting the Government, in reducing the public debt, and in defraying the expenses of the war.

Third. To authorize a new issue of Treasury notes to the amount of two hundred million dollars, and to limit the issue of Treasury notes.

Fourth. For any deficit in meeting the expenses of the Government for eighteen hundred and sixty-four to authorize the issue of _____ dollars in six per cent coupon bonds, to be exempt from taxation, with a pledge of import duties to secure payment of the same.

Mr. Hilton submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Lyons (in the nature of a substitute):

Resolved, That the bill be recommitted to the special committee, with instructions—

First. To report a bill levying a tax of twenty-five per cent on the outstanding Treasury notes and on the value of cotton, tobacco, and naval stores.

Second. Said bill to provide for raising one hundred million dollars as near as may be by tax on profits, incomes, trades, and other subjects and matters of taxation.

Third. Levying a tax of one per cent on land and negroes, Confederate bonds, and interest-bearing notes.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered.

And being on the amendment of Mr. Hilton,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Conrad,

Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 27
Nays ----- 47

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Conrad, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Barksdale, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, and Trippe.

So the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Lyons, as amended,

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 35
Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Gartrell, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, Moore, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Trippe, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Barksdale, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the amendment as amended was lost.

The question recurring on the resolution of Mr. Lyon,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 22
Nays ----- 53

Yeas: Barksdale, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Ewing, Gaither, Gardenhire, Hanly, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, McLean, Menees, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Villeré, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier,

Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Moore, Mun-nerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the resolution was lost.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

And being on the amendment of Mr. Conrad to the first section of the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out of the bill of the committee the first, second, third, and fourth sections and insert in lieu thereof:

"SECTION 1. That all Treasury notes above and including the denomination of five dollars, not bearing interest, issued before the second day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, shall, until the day of , eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be fundable in bonds bearing interest at the rate of four per cent; and all interest-bearing notes, issued as aforesaid, shall be fundable by the time aforesaid in bonds bearing the same rate of interest and payable at the same time with said notes, or if the holders prefer it, they may, by the time aforesaid, fund said notes in four per cent bonds having the same time to run as the bonds into which other Treasury notes are fundable, as is provided by the ninth section of this act; and all notes above and including the denomination of five dollars, issued since the second day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, shall be fundable in the manner and within the times prescribed by the respective acts of Congress regulating and providing for their issue; and when the existing law has failed to prescribe the manner or time within which such Treasury notes may be funded, then such notes shall be fundable in bonds bearing four per cent interest per annum until the said day of , eighteen hundred and sixty-four; and all call-loan certificates which are convertible into notes shall be fundable in the same manner as the notes into which they are convertible: *Provided*, That the holders of Treasury notes of all descriptions shall have the privilege, by the time aforesaid, of funding the same in four per cent bonds.

"SEC. 2. For the purpose of maintaining the plighted faith of the Government in the ultimate redemption and payment of its pecuniary obligations, and to enable it to achieve its independence, a tax of per cent shall be levied and collected upon all Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars that may be outstanding on the day of next, and the holders of said notes shall present them, at such time and under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, to agents, to be appointed by the said Secretary, in the respective districts in which such holders may reside, and the said agents, respectively, shall deduct the amount of said tax from the amount of said notes and shall, by such mark or designation as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, to be affixed or stamped upon each note returned to the holder, show that said note has paid its proportion of said tax, and all such notes as shall not be marked or designated as aforesaid by the day of next shall be forfeited to the Confederate States and held entirely null and void for failure to pay such tax.

"SEC. 3. All call-loan certificates which shall be outstanding on the said day of next shall be produced, taxed, marked, or designated in the same manner and to the same extent that is provided by the foregoing section for the notes into which they are convertible."

Mr. Chambliss moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 38
Nays ----- 25 [26]

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis,

Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Moore, Preston, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Villeré.

Nays: Atkins, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Gardenhire, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Machen, McLean, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion prevailed, and the House resolved itself into open session.

The House having taken a recess until half past 7 o'clock, reassembled at that hour; and having resolved itself again into secret session,

Mr. Swan moved a call of the House; which motion was agreed to.

The roll was called and the following gentlemen answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Boteler, Burnett, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Pending the proceedings under the call, a quorum having been found to be present,

On motion of Mr. Goode, further proceedings were dispensed with.

Mr. Holcombe moved to recommit the bill to the committee, with the following instructions:

To report bills—

1. To authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue Treasury notes to discharge the existing liabilities of the Government, to the amount of one hundred millions of dollars, and to repeal all other laws authorizing the issue of Treasury notes.

2. In the event of the receipts from taxes and the sales of bonds not coming into the Treasury with such rapidity as to defray the current expenses of the Government, authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bills in the nature of exchequer bills, to be paid out of the taxes accruing during the year to the amount of one hundred and fifty millions of dollars.

3. Providing for a remission of the tax of ten per cent on Treasury notes when the same have been paid into the Treasury prior to the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, in payment of taxes, or to be exchanged for bonds to be issued under the authority of this act.

4. For the imposition of taxes on real and personal property, in addition to the tax in kind of per cent, where the owner is not in the military service of the Confederacy; of per cent where the owner is in the military service, and an additional tax in kind to the amount of one-tenth where the owner of a farm or plantation is not in the military service. And for a repeal of the impressment laws, except so far as to secure to the Government a right of preemption at current market rates.

5. For an accumulating tax of per cent per month on all agricultural products over and above the supply necessary for the family and plantation.

6. Authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bonds bearing three per cent interest, payable in years, to be free from taxation of either principal or interest, the coupons to be received in the payment of taxes in the proportion of one dollar in coupons to two dollars in Treasury notes. And a bill imposing an export duty to secure payment of same.

7. Authorizing the holders of eight per cent bonds to exchange them for the three per cent bonds at par, and the holders of other Government securities at proportionable rates.

8. Bills prohibiting the exportation of cotton, except upon Government account, and securing to the Government the control over the specie in the Confederacy.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Johnston moved that the House resolve itself into open session; which motion was lost.

Mr. Foote moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

And being on that part of the amendment of Mr. Chilton relating to the first section of the bill,

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Garnett submitted the following amendment to the first section:

Strike out after the word "shall," in third line, the words "until the first day of _____, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be fundable in six per cent bonds of the Confederate States," and insert the words "hereafter be fundable in six per cent bonds of the Confederate States at twenty cents in the dollar."

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to strike out the first section of the bill.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Perkins submitted the following amendment:

In ninth line, strike out the words "shall be deemed to be satisfied and discharged" and insert the words "shall not be fundable nor received in payment of Government dues until after the termination of the war."

Mr. Garnett moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Johnston moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and days;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 25
Nays----- 30

Yeas: Boteler, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Curry, Dargan, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Heiskell, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Perkins, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Smith of North Carolina.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Boyce, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Hartridge, Hilton, Marshall, Martin, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Atkins called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on that part of the amendment of Mr. Chilton relating to the second section,

Mr. Atkins called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Arrington moved to recommit the bill to the committee, with the following instructions:

To report a bill repealing all laws prohibiting the funding of Treasury notes, and allow them to be funded as expressed in the acts authorizing their issue; and that Treasury notes be taxed as land and slaves for six months; and after the expiration of six months all outstanding Treasury notes shall be subject to a tax of twenty-five per cent.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the second section of the bill by striking out after the word "dollar," in the seventh line, the words

all such Treasury notes outstanding on or after the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, shall be deemed to be satisfied and discharged.

Mr. Foote called the question, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Garnett demanded the previous question.

The demand was not sustained.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Foote,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-FIRST DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Collier offered the following resolution; which was agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing inquire into and report a list of reports of battles now in the hands of the Public Printer, ordered to be printed by the House.

Mr. Clopton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be directed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing commutation of the tax in kind in cotton by the payment of money, or prescribing the manner in which the cotton shall be prepared for delivery in cases in which the tenth of the cotton made is not sufficient to make a bale.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill to explain the eighth section of the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Chilton presented a communication from the collector at Mobile, asking increased compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Hartridge presented a resolution of the legislature of Georgia, requesting the establishment of a certain mail route in that State; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Also, another resolution of the Georgia legislature, requesting the passage of a law giving detailed soldiers the same pay as other persons employed by the Government in the same business; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell introduced

A bill to authorize the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Hartridge introduced

A bill to grant free transportation to soldiers on furlough; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Trippe presented the following resolutions of the legislature of Georgia:

Resolution requesting the passage of a law giving detailed soldiers the same pay as other persons employed in the same business; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Resolutions in relation to the tax act of Congress, referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Resolution to increase the pay of privates and noncommissioned officers in the Confederate service.

referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Resolution granting free transportation to soldiers on furlough, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Resolutions to suspend the collection of the tax in kind in certain cases;

referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Resolution to revoke the appointment of impressment officers and appoint citizens in their stead.

Mr. H. W. Bruce presented a communication from Lieut. Col. V. Shelihā, suggesting the organization of negro laborers for the Engineer Corps; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce also offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the propriety of giving adjutants of regiments the rank and pay of captains, and as such putting them in the regular line of promotion; and that said committee also inquire into the propriety of increasing the rank and pay of sergeant-majors of regiments to at least that of cadets.

Mr. Dupré offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House what amount of money has been forwarded to the Trans-Mississippi Department since the last adjournment of Congress, and also whether any measures have been taken to adjust the numerous claims against the Government arising from the impressments of property in Louisiana in disregard of the provisions of the impressment law, and where no compensation or payment was made to the owners.

Mr. Welsh presented the memorial of certain citizens of Choctaw County, Miss., praying the establishment of a mail route; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Also, a resolution of the legislature of Mississippi for the relief of certain counties; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

On motion of Mr. Farrow,

The Speaker was authorized to appoint two additional temporary members to the Committee on the Medical Department.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the revenue laws as to subject goods received during the existing blockade from abroad to the payment of duties in specie.

Mr. Atkins presented a memorial from Brig. Gen. O. F. Strahl, on the subject of the reorganization of the Army; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Villeré, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A joint resolution for the relief of Charles H. Hawthorn,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table.

It was so ordered.

Mr. Hilton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to fix the rank, pay, and allowances of the adjutants of regiments and independent battalions;

which was read a first and second time.

And the question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read as follows, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That from and after the passage of this act adjutants of regiments and independent battalions shall have and receive the rank, pay, and allowances of captains of cavalry.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend by adding at the end of the bill the words "and shall be in regular line of promotion as officers of the line."

Mr. Jones moved to lay the bill and amendment on the table, and on his motion demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The motion to lay on the table was lost.

The morning hour having expired,

The House, on motion of Mr. Gray, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Burnett, leave of absence was granted Mr. De Jarnette (detained from his seat by indisposition).

A message was received from the Senate, by their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 181. An act for the relief of William M. Bowles, Richard Bowles, and others; In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Foster moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Garnett moved that the House adjourn; which latter motion was agreed to, and

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the special [order]; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the bill by striking out the whole of the second section.

Mr. Singleton called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 39
 { Nays----- 36

Yeas: Arrington, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holeombe, Ingram, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Moore, Preston,

Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Swan.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boyce, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Singleton, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by inserting the following as an independent section:

SEC. 2. On and after the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, all such Treasury notes shall be fundable only in four per cent bonds of the Confederate States, and upon all such Treasury notes outstanding on the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, there shall be levied a tax of twenty-five cents for every dollar promised upon the face of said notes; and on the first day of each month thereafter there shall be levied upon all such notes then outstanding a tax of like amount. These taxes shall attach to the notes wherever circulated and shall be collected by a deduction, at the Treasury, its depositaries, and tax collectors, from all such notes whenever presented for funding or in payment for Government dues; but from the passage of this act until the first day of October, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, holders of any of the Treasury notes not bearing interest shall be entitled to purchase from the Government bonds of the issue hereinafter authorized, with such notes, without abatement for such tax, at the rate of one dollar of the bonds for ten dollars of the notes.

Mr. Perkins submitted the following amendment to the amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

SEC. 2. On and after the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, all such Treasury notes shall be fundable only in four per cent bonds of the Confederate States, and at the following rates, viz: Until the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at par; until the first day of June, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at seventy-five cents in the dollar; until the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at fifty cents in the dollar; and until the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at twenty-five cents in the dollar. All such Treasury notes then outstanding, after deducting seventy-five cents in the dollar, shall be fundable and receivable in payment of public dues, after the termination of the existing war, at twenty-five cents in the dollar.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table.

Mr. Collier demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	12
{ Nays	59

Yeas: Arrington, Bridgers, Collier, Davidson, Gaither, Gardenhire, Hilton, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McLean, and Preston.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered.

And being on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas - - - - - 43
Nays - - - - - 25

Days	25
------	----

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Chambliss, Clapp, Clifton, Conrad, Curry, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Boyce, Bridgers, Chilton, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, Elliott, Farrow, Gaither, Gardenhire, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, Martin, McLean, Preston, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Swan.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Foster submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of second section the words "*Provided*, That the sum of two hundred dollars in the hands of all officers and soldiers in the military and naval service of the Confederate States shall be exempted from this taxation."

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Holcombe moved that the bill be recommitted to the special committee, with instructions to report such bills as in their judgment may best strengthen the credit of the existing currency, induce voluntary funding, and produce means for the support of the Government and prosecution of the war.

On the motion of Mr. Holcombe,

Mr. Goode demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 28
Nays ----- 47

Days	47
------	----

Yeas: Arrington, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Crockett, Davidson, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Preston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Swan.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boyce, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Cnrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Lyon, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Foote moved to recommit the bill to the committee, with instructions to report a bill harmonizing with the present financial plan of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Baldwin called the question; which was ordered.
Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 1
Nays 71

Yeas: Lewis.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Tennessee, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Barksdale moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Singleton moved to lay the motion of Mr. Foote to recommit on the table.

Mr. McRae demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 63 [64]
Nays 7

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boyce, Garnett, Perkins, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Foote moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the proceedings on his motion to recommit.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the motion on the table; which latter motion was agreed to.

Mr. Machen submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the further consideration of the bill before the House be postponed until after the tax bill is considered and disposed of.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the resolution was not agreed to.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Graham,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY—THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Edwards.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 13, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 17th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War relative to the steps taken in response to "An act to prevent the absence of officers and soldiers without leave," approved the 16th of April, 1863.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Also, another communication from the President, as follows; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 13, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 12th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a list of those persons who have been specially noticed and promoted from the ranks for gallantry in the field.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Also, another communication from the President, as follows, viz:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of "Major-General Hindman's report of his operations while in command of the Trans-Mississippi District."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 13, 1864.*

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hanly moved that the usual number of copies of said report be printed for the use of the House; which motion was referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair laid before the House a report from the Commissioner of Patents; which was referred to the Committee on Patents and ordered to be printed.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 181) for the relief of William M. Bowles, Richard Bowles, and others; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Chair announced the appointment of the special committee under the resolution of Mr. Goode as follows, viz:

Messrs. Goode of Virginia, Hilton of Florida, McLean of North Carolina, Wright of Tennessee, and Trippe of Georgia.

Mr. Jones moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of taking up for consideration the bill to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864.

The motion was agreed to.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into committee for the purpose of considering said bill, Mr. Sexton in the

chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that the committee had had under consideration the matter referred to it and recommended the passage of the bill with sundry amendments.

The first amendment of the committee was read as follows, viz:

Strike out, in page 4, line 15, the words "noncommissioned officers and privates."

The amendment was agreed to.

The second amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In line 26, page 9, strike out "sixty-four" and insert "eighty-one."

The third amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

Insert, to come in at end of the clause under the head of Indian affairs, the words "For interest on eighty thousand six hundred and thirty-four dollars and ninety-six cents, the removal and subsistence fund due the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina, from May twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty, to May twenty-third, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, nineteen thousand three hundred and fifty-two dollars and thirty-six cents."

Mr. Garland moved to amend by striking [out], on page 4, the following, viz:

For pay of officers, etc., required to collect the tax in kind, twelve millions two hundred and thirteen thousand two hundred and four dollars, from July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four,

And demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

Mr. Maehen demanded the previous question.

The main question having been ordered,

The yeas and nays were recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas--- ---- 12
Nays ----- 51

Yeas: Collier, Crockett, Ewing, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Hanly, McDowell, Miller, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the forty-second rule, requiring the bill to lie over two days for reconsideration, was suspended.

Mr. Miles, under a suspension of the rules, reported

A bill to repeal an act to organize bands of partisan rangers, approved April 21, 1862, and for other purposes; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A resolution of inquiry into abuses of "commutation" said to exist in the War Department, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments to make the inquiry.

So ordered.

Also, a resolution of inquiry relative to fines illegally imposed on citizens not in the Army, and the confiscation of their property by courts-martial in the city of Richmond, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary to make the inquiry.

It was so ordered.

Also, a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for temporarily filling vacancies caused by the capture of officers, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to introduce a bill.

The motion was lost.

A communication was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 14, 1864.*

Mr. Speaker: The President, on the 13th instant, approved and signed an act entitled H. R. 88. An act to continue in force the provisions of an act therein named.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Wright of Texas, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Farrow, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Simpson, detained from his seat by indisposition.

On motion of Mr. Welsh, leave of absence was granted Mr. Clapp (detained from his seat by indisposition).

Mr. Hilton moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by striking out "half past 7" and inserting "7."

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved that the House adjourn; which latter motion was agreed to, and

The Chair announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the second section by adding at the end the following, viz:

Provided, That the tax on notes shall not exceed eighty per cent on and after the first of August next.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the third section by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

Sec. 3. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue the bonds required for the funding herein provided for, and until the bonds can be prepared he may issue certificates to answer the purpose. He may also issue to any one who holds in all less than one hundred dollars of Treasury notes, a certificate for the amount, transferable only by special assignment; but not more than one such certificate shall be given to the same person. Such bonds and certificates shall be receivable, without interest, in payment of all Government dues payable in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, except export duties.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 4. Treasury notes in the possession of the Post-Office Department and the Patent Office at the passage of this act may be exchanged for the notes of the new issue hereinafter provided for at par.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the amendment by inserting after the words "Patent Office" the words "and the several State treasurers."

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Chilton,

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas-----	22
Nays-----	47

Yeas: Bell, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Collier, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, Perkins, Preston, Simpson, and Singleton.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hartridge, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vileré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Johnston submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in the fourth section, after the word "act," in the second line, the words "shall continue to be receivable in payment of all public dues, except export duties, but shall not hereafter be fundable," and insert the words "shall be placed upon the same footing with, and entitled to all the advantages of, the new issue of Treasury notes authorized to be made by the fifth section of this act."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the fourth section by striking out the last sentence and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

All call-loan certificates, and the Treasury notes in which they may hereafter be redeemed, shall be fundable and receivable, and shall be taxed in all respects as has been herein provided for Treasury notes heretofore issued.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Russell submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute for the fifth section):

SEC. 5. That the taxes in kind imposed for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four by the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, are hereby doubled for said year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, so that twice the amounts and rates of taxes in kind imposed thereby as aforesaid shall be levied and collected for that year. But the amounts which farmers and planters may reserve out of the subjects of the taxes in kind for that year shall be twice the amounts which said act permits them to reserve.

Every person who shall be liable to pay or deliver any tax in kind for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four may, at his option, commute the same by the payment of coin or commutation bills, as hereinafter provided.

The President shall cause to be made and issued bills to be called "commutation bills," which shall be of any of the denominations heretofore authorized for Treasury notes not bearing interest, and shall purport that the Confederate States of America owe to the bearer the sums of money therein respectively specified, and that the bills are receivable in commutation of certain taxes according to law. Such bills, when received into the Treasury, may be reissued, or others may be issued, but the whole amount of them outstanding shall not at any time exceed millions of dollars. Such of said bills as shall remain outstanding at the conclusion of a definitive treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States will be paid within two years thereafter.

The commutations hereinbefore authorized to be made shall, until otherwise provided by law, be made at the following rates: For wheat, per bushel; for corn, per bushel; for oats, per bushel; for rye, per bushel; for buckwheat, per bushel; for rice, per pound; for sweet potatoes, per bushel; for Irish potatoes, per bushel; for cured hay, per ton; for fodder, per ton; for sugar, per pound; for molasses, per gallon; for cotton, cents per pound; for wool, per pound; for tobacco, per pound; for pease, per bushel; for beans, per bushel; for ground pease, per bushel, and for bacon, cents per pound.

Whenever the amount which any taxpayer is bound to deliver of any crop, as tax in kind, for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, shall be agreed upon between him and the assessor, or shall be assessed according to law, or when the taxpayer shall exhibit his account of hogs slaughtered, the taxpayer, if he elects to commute the same according to this act, shall notify the assessor thereof, in writing, and thereupon the amount of money payable on account of such commutation shall be immediately due and shall be certified by the assessor to the proper collector, and the amount due shall be paid or collected, in commutation bills or coin (at the option of the taxpayer), according to the laws relating to the collection of income taxes, so far as the same are applicable.

Mr. Gartrell called the question; which was ordered.

And being on the amendment of Mr. Russell,

Mr. Russell demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	{ Yeas	19
	{ Nays	49

Yeas: Boteler, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Lewis, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Swan, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Maehen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miller, Perkins, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the fifth section by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

SEC. 5. Every person who shall be liable to pay or deliver any tax in kind for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four may, at his option, commute the same by the payment of coin or commutation bills, as hereinafter provided.

The President shall cause to be made and issued bills to be called "commutation bills," which shall be of any of the denominations heretofore authorized for Treasury notes not bearing interest, and shall purport that the Confederate States of America owe to the bearer the sums of money therein respectively specified, and that the bills are receivable in commutation of certain taxes according to law. Such bills, when received into the Treasury, may be reissued, or others may be issued, but the whole amount of them outstanding shall not at any time exceed millions of dollars. Such of said bills as shall remain outstanding at the conclusion of a definitive treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States will be paid within two years thereafter.

The commutations hereinbefore authorized to be made shall, until otherwise provided by law, be made at the following rates: For wheat, per bushel; for corn, per bushel; for oats, per bushel; for rye, per bushel; for buckwheat, per bushel; for rice, per pound; for sweet potatoes, per bushel; for Irish potatoes, per bushel; for cured hay, per ton; for fodder, per ton; for sugar, per pound; for molasses, per gallon; for cotton, cents per pound; for wool, per pound; for tobacco, per pound; for pease, per bushel; for beans, per bushel; for ground pease, per bushel, and for bacon, cents per pound.

Whenever the amount which any taxpayer is bound to deliver of any crop, as tax in kind, for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, shall be agreed upon between him and the assessor, or shall be assessed according to law, or when the taxpayer shall exhibit his account of hogs slaughtered, the taxpayer, if he elects to commute the same according to this act, shall notify the assessor thereof, in writing, and thereupon the amount of money payable on account of such commutation shall be immediately due and shall be certified by the assessor to the proper collector, and the amount due shall be paid or collected, in commutation bills or coin (at the option of the taxpayer), according to the laws relating to the collection of income taxes, so far as the same are applicable.

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the sixth section as follows, viz: Strike out, in line 4, the words "they shall be exempt from taxation."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Garnett moved to amend the sixth section by striking out the word "only," in third line, and inserting the words "and export duties heretofore laid."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the sixth section by striking out all after the word "dues," in second line, down to and including the word "only," in third line, and the amendment just agreed to.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the sixth section by inserting after the word "taxation," in line 4, the words "and shall be a legal tender in the payment of all private debts contracted after the passage of this act."

Mr. Wright of Texas called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 28
 { Nays----- 36

Yeas: Barksdale, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Collier, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Machen, McRae, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Lander, Lyons, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

Resolved itself into open session.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of certain students of the Medi-

cal College of Virginia relative to the law revoking the exemptions heretofore granted to persons who had furnished substitutes; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Clapp moved that the rules be suspended to enable the Select Committee on the Veteran Soldiers' Home to make a report, and on his motion demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 59
Nays----- 7

Yeas: Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Meneses, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Clopton, Dargan, Dupré, Perkins, Pugh, and Ralls.
So the motion prevailed.

Mr. Clapp, from said committee, to which has been referred

A bill to provide for wounded and disabled officers, soldiers, and seamen an asylum, to be called "The Veteran Soldiers' Home," reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass with sundry amendments.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The first amendment is as follows, viz:

Strike out after the words "pending war," section 1, line 9, the words "the sum of dollars" and insert "all moneys that have been or that may be paid into the Treasury on account of exemptions from military service under the laws heretofore enacted by Congress."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp moved to postpone the bill until Monday next, and make it the special order for that day during the morning hour.

The motion was agreed to.

The Chair announced the appointment of Mr. Ingram of Georgia, in place of Mr. Wright of that State, and Mr. Garland of Arkansas, in place of Mr. Royston, as temporary members of the Committee on the Medical Department.

Mr. Villeré offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to furnish to this House a copy of the proceedings of the court of inquiry of General M. Lovell.

Mr. Welsh introduced

A bill more effectually to enforce General Orders, No. 105, issued July 29, 1863, in reference to officers in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments;

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments.

Mr. Kenan of North Carolina presented the petition of Alsa South-erland, postmaster at Kenansville, N. C., praying relief from loss of postage stamps carried off by the public enemy; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina introduced

A bill amendatory of the act entitled "An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes," approved January 5, 1864; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to this House the number of officers of different grades who have been retired or dropped from the Army in accordance with the provisions of the act for ridding the Army of ignorant, disabled, and incompetent officers.

Mr. Farrow offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire—

1. Whether by existing law the Secretary of War is authorized to change the organization of those commands which were originally organized as legions (by severing the different arms of the service) into regiments.

2. Whether (in the event such authority does not now exist) it is expedient that such authority should be conferred.

3. How many commands of legionary organization have from time to time been received into service, and in how many of such commands the legionary organization has been preserved.

Mr. Farrow presented the memorial of the officers of the Holcombe Legion Infantry, praying a separation from the cavalry portion of the legion; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Heiskell introduced

A bill to place in the military service all persons who have submitted to take the oath of allegiance to the United States; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to inform this House by what authority Generals Sam. Jones and Imboden have prohibited the transportation of food from the military district in which they are located to the city of Richmond for private use and consumption.

Mr. Conrow presented the memorial of Maj. H. R. Hooper, praying relief from loss of Confederate Treasury notes; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Conrow introduced

A joint resolution for the relief of Maj. Henry R. Hooper; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Strickland presented a joint resolution of the legislature of Georgia, asking the establishment of a mail route; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Burnett introduced

A joint resolution upon the subject of retaliation; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Heiskell, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion of Mr. Baldwin prevailed.

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Boyce demanded the previous question.

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier,

Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Boyce, Gaither, Garland, Jones, Machen, McLean, Munnerlyn, Pugh, and Sexton.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; which latter motion prevailed.

Mr. Lyons moved to postpone the consideration of the special order for the present for the purpose of enabling him to offer a resolution.

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered, and the motion prevailed.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved that the rules be suspended to enable Mr. Lyons to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be, and he is hereby, respectfully requested to visit this House, with his Cabinet, or without, as he may prefer, in secret session, and confer with it upon the condition of the country and the Army, with a view to suggest such measures as he may deem best calculated to relieve both the country and the Army, and also to consider whether it would be expedient in the present practical cessation of arms to make any overture to the authorities of the United States for peace, upon the basis of the independence of the Confederacy and the preservation of all her institutions, and that he will notify the House of the time at which it will be agreeable to him to comply with this request.

2. That if it be not agreeable to the President to comply with the foregoing resolution, that he is hereby requested to address the House in writing, in secret session, upon the topics referred to in the foregoing resolution.

3. That a committee of three be appointed to present the foregoing resolutions to the President and receive his reply.

Mr. Preston demanded the yeas [and nays] on the motion to suspend the rules;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	38
Nays	31

Yeas: Arrington, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, Ralls, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Heiskell, Jones, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Vest.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the motion was lost.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Swan,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY—SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Garland moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Whereas it appears somewhat likely that the Federal Congress may possibly call for one million or more of men, to attempt to release all Federal prisoners in the Confederacy and to plant the Federal flag upon every prison in the Confederate States, and to do divers other things within the coming ninety days too numerous to mention, and to render the accomplishment of these things certain there is a remote possibility that the members of the Federal Congress under fifty years of age may take the field: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency and propriety of at once conscribing five hundred thousand men to meet this immense host, to serve until "next grass;" and if in their opinion this is not sufficient, they further inquire into the propriety of putting into the service for that time every member of Congress under seventy-one years of age; and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

Mr. Jones moved a call of the House.

The motion was lost.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Garland to suspend the rules,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved that the House resolve itself into secret session, and demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	{ Yeas	19
	{ Nays	47

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Chambliss, Conrow, Dargan, Ewing, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Lander, Perkins, Pugh, Villeré, and Wright of Tennessee.

Nays: Baldwin, Bell, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Machen, Martin, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

The House then resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was the bill to fix the rank, pay, and allowances of the adjutants of regiments and independent battalions.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 87. An act appropriating \$100,000 for the use and benefit of the Cherokee Nation.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. H. W. Bruce was lost.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved to lay the bill on the table.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 29
Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foster, Graham, Gray, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Lewis, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out the words "and allowances of captains of cavalry" and insert the words "of captains in the arm of the service to which they are attached."

Mr. Trippe moved to amend the amendment by striking out the word "rank."

Mr. Goode demanded the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment to the amendment,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Hilton,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Kenan of Georgia demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 39
Nays ----- 35

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chilton, Davidson, Ewing, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Swan, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Ingram, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Perkins, Read, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, and Welsh.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the title by striking out the words "and allowances."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 89. An act authorizing chaplains, in certain cases, to draw forage for one horse.

The Senate have passed a bill entitled

S. 190. An act to regulate the collection of the tax in kind upon tobacco, and to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Barksdale,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

Mr. Heiskell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill for the benefit of citizens and noncombatants seized by the enemy,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Baldwin submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of the amendment, in section 6, ending with word "issue," the words "and except duties on imports and exports during the war, which Congress may, by law, require to be paid in specie."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hartridge submitted the following amendment:

Strike out after the word "interest," in line 6, section 8 (of the bill as amended), the words "the entire net receipts into the Treasury of all duties on imports are hereby specially pledged" and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz: "the entire net receipts of any export duty of hereafter laid on the value of all cotton, tobacco, and naval stores which shall be exported from the Confederate States, and so much of the net receipts of import duties as with such export duties will be sufficient to pay, annually, the interest and one per cent of the principal of the bonds which shall be issued under this section, are hereby specially pledged; and the coupons attached to said bonds shall, as they become due, be receivable in payment of said duties, or any other duties required hereafter to be paid in specie."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute) to the ninth and tenth sections of the bill as amended:

Strike out whole of sections 9 and 10 and insert

"Sec. 9. The Secretary of the Treasury shall, from time to time, sell, upon the best terms he may find practicable, for Treasury notes of the issue herein authorized, specie or foreign exchange, so many of these bonds as may be necessary to meet the wants of the Treasury."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, by unanimous consent, submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in section 8, the word "forever," in line 5, and insert, in line 6, after the word "taxation," the words "during the war,"

And thereon demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded, viz: } Yeas ----- 34
 } Nays ----- 32

Yeas: Barksdale, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gartrell, Hamly, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McDowell, McRae, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Collier, Conrad, Dargan, Dupré, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Lyon, McQueen, Mences, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Swan, Vileré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment prevailed.

Mr. Welsh moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered.

And being on the amendment of Mr. Chilton,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Baldwin submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in last line of section 10, the word "them" and add at the end of section 10 the words "the bonds issued under the third section."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in section 10, the words "may be either registered or coupon bonds, as the parties taking them may elect, and they may be exchanged for each other under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe," and insert in lieu thereof the words "shall be registered bonds."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend section 11 by inserting the word "special" before the word "deposit."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gray moved to amend by striking out the eleventh section.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad submitted the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 11. Any bank or other agent, trustee, or depository having prior to the passage of this act received Treasury notes on deposit, or having collected a debt due to his principal in such notes, may present the amount so held or collected by him for funding, under the provisions of this act, in the name and for account of his principal.

Mr. Wright of Texas called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin submitted the following amendment (as a substitute for eleventh section of the bill as amended):

SEC. 11. The times fixed in the first and second sections of this act for funding and for levying taxes shall in each case be extended for three months in addition in those parts of the Confederate States west of the Mississippi River.

Mr. Menees moved to amend the amendment by inserting after the words "addition in" the words "Kentucky and Tennessee."

Mr. Collier called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	Y	e	a	s	-----	26
	N	a	y	s	-----	36

Yeas: Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chrisman, Conrad, Dargan, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Machen, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Read, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Vest.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Funsten, Gaither, Garnett, Gray, Hartridge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, McDowell, Miller, Moore, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Moore submitted the following amendment to the amendment:

Add at end the words "And that the people of the State of Kentucky, within the enemy's lines, shall be allowed two months to fund such Treasury notes as they may have after they shall be within the lines of the Confederate Army."

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

The amendment of Mr. Baldwin was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend section 13 by inserting, in third line, after the word "States," the words "and by such other means."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the first section by filling up the blank with the word "April."

Mr. Foster moved to amend the amendment by striking out "April" and inserting "May."

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Dupré moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Wright of Texas called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin,

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the second section by striking out the word "March" and inserting "April," and striking out the word "May" and inserting "June."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Johnston moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Baldwin to the third section was agreed to.

Mr. Collier demanded the previous question.

The demand was sustained, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Swan to the amendment of Mr. Boyce,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Boyce,

Mr. Gardenhire demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Boyce was lost.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 33
Nays----- 36

Yeas: Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Ingram, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, Menees, Miller, Moore, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Vest.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Chrisman, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Gray, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. E. M. Bruce moved that the bill be recommended to the special committee.

Mr. Read called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit was lost.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 38
Nays----- 32

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Lyon, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, Miller, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Swan.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Gardenhire moved that the House resolve itself into open session. The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency was passed.

The motion was lost.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Gardenhire.

Resolved itself into open session

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall.

On motion of Mr. McDowell, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. McLean (detained from his seat by indisposition).

On motion of Mr. Goode, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Chambliss (detained from his seat by indisposition).

Mr. Boteler presented the memorial of the armorers of the Confederate States Armory at Richmond, asking relief; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Barksdale introduced

A bill for the relief of Livingston Mims, which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, a bill to authorize payment for property destroyed and injured by reason of military necessities; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Preston, from the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to which had been referred a resolution requesting the Secretary of War to instruct Generals Wheeler and Lee to send a quartermaster to the First Congressional district of Alabama, to adjust certain unsettled balances, &c., reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Also, a resolution relative to sufferings of our troops for want of subsistence, as alleged in extracts from letters therewith, with the same recommendation; which was agreed to.

Also, a bill to suppress abuses in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Also, a bill to facilitate the detection of frauds in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred

A bill to regulate the fees of the district attorneys, clerks, and marshals of the Confederate States,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Also, a resolution instructing the committee to inquire into the expediency of amending the act regulating impressments so as to relieve from impressment a sufficient quantity of provisions to supply the wants of the nonproducing classes of the community, with the same recommendation; which was agreed to.

Also, a bill to provide payment for slaves impressed under State laws and lost in the public service, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was postponed, placed upon the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Preston, from the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, reported

A bill extending the privilege of purchasing clothing at Government cost to all persons in its employment who have been discharged from the Army on account of wounds received or disease contracted whilst in the service;

which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clopton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments be directed to inquire into the expediency of permitting the owners of hogs and cattle, which may be impressed, to slaughter the same instead of having it done by contract with others or by agents of the Government.

Mr. Barksdale offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to report a bill for the more speedy and effectual punishment of officers and privates who are guilty of violating the act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

Mr. Ingram offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Whereas many mechanics have been detailed from the Army to work in the Government shops and at stipulated wages; and it is represented by many of these men that on account of the high prices of provisions they are unable to live with their present pay: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be requested to inquire into the expediency of increasing the pay of such detailed mechanics.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers an asylum, to be called "The Veteran Soldiers' Home."

Mr. Clapp submitted the following amendment:

In section 1, line 7, strike out the words "be, and the same is hereby, appropriated," and insert after the word "Congress" as follows: "of the amount of which already paid in, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish an estimate upon the passage of this bill, be, and the same are hereby, set apart as a fund."

The amendment was agreed to.

The second amendment of the committee was agreed to, viz:

After the word "enterprise," in line 16, section 1, strike out the words "and of participating in the pleasing and grateful duty of contributing to the relief of those who have periled all, and have been disabled in the service of their country."

The fourth amendment of the committee was agreed to, viz:

Insert after the word "same," line 40, the words "including clothing for the inmates."

The fifth amendment of the committee was agreed to, viz:

Strike out after the word "institution," section 1, line 45, the words "for the benefit of all those invalids, soldiers or seamen, who may need the repose and treatment furnished therein, together with all other persons of said classes, whose wounds from hasty field operations require further surgical attention, and the Surgeon-General shall be authorized to appoint the most skillful surgeons to discharge the duties of said infirmary," and insert the words "under the direction of the Surgeon-General."

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The amendment of the committee to the title of the bill was agreed to, viz:

Strike out after the word "officers" the word "and," and insert after the word "soldiers" the words "and seamen."

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 159. An act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary, to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi River;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House the following communication from the President:

RICHMOND, VA., January 18, 1864.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 30th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of regulations and orders relative to the payment of assessments of damages made by commanding officers in the field, without intervention of "courts-martial or boards of survey."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 159) to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary, to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi River;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Foster moved that the House take a recess until 7 o'clock.

Mr. Hartridge moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 32
 } Nays ----- 28

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Conrow, Davidson, Dupré, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Russell, Sexton, Strickland, and Trippe.

Nays: Bell, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gray, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Miles, Munmerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion prevailed, and

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 158) entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war;" in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair having laid the bill before the House, and it having been read a first and second time,

Mr. Miles moved that the rule be suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved that the bill be postponed and placed upon the Calendar.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the motion of Mr. Miles by inserting before the word "Calendar" the words "Open Session."

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Dupré demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas -----	35
{ Nays -----	38

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Staples, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Boteler, Breckinridge, Burnett, Chrisman, Clapp, Crockett, Dargan, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gardenhire, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Maehen, McRae, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was not agreed to, and the motion of Mr. Miles prevailed.

Mr. Miles moved that the bill be printed and made the special order from day to day, to be considered after the bills reported from the Committee on the Currency.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Gaither moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Foote to the motion of Mr. Miles was disagreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the motion on the table; which latter motion was agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order, which was the bill to organize a Treasury note bureau; which was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The House then took up the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government.

Mr. Garnett moved that the bill be considered in open session, and thereon demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas -----	33
{ Nays -----	34

Yeas: Baldwin, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Jones, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Preston, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Boteler, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Chrisman, Clapp, Crockett, Dargan, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North

Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McRae, Miller, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. McDowell moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the vote just taken.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Heiskell, leave of absence was granted Mr. Curriu (detained from his seat by indisposition).

On motion of Mr. Menees, leave of absence was also granted his colleague, Mr. Atkins (detained from his seat by indisposition).

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to place the bill of the Senate to organize forces to serve during the war on the Open Session Calendar.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Lyons, by unanimous consent, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire what measures, if any, should be adopted the more effectually to enforce the order of this House as to secret sessions, and have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them and had come to no conclusion thereon.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Wright of Texas,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-SIXTH DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall.

Mr. Perkins, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred

A bill for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, reported

A bill for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was read a first and second time.

And the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Swan moved that the bill be postponed and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Gartrell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act supplementary to an act to raise money for the support of the Government, and to provide for the defense of the Confederate States of America, adopted February twenty-eighth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one,"

[reported the same back,] with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, reported

A bill to authorize the issue of certificates of interest on the "fifteen million loan,"

with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was read a first and second time.

And the question being on postponing the same,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases was passed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Hartridge, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution of inquiry into the expediency of amending the twelfth section of the act of the 24th April, 1863, to lay taxes for the common defense, so as to provide for assessing and taxing hogs slaughtered by others than the producer,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Special Committee on the Currency; which was agreed to.

Also, a resolution of inquiry into the expediency of so amending the act to lay taxes for the common defense, as to allow planters a just compensation for the bagging and rope furnished by them for the purpose of bailing the one-tenth of cotton delivered to the Government, with the same recommendation; which was agreed to.

Mr. Jones, from the same committee, to which had been referred the petition of Caroline M. Brent, reported back the same adversely, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Also, the memorial of Alex. F. Kinney, with the same recommendation; which was agreed to.

Mr. Graham, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate bill (S. 172) to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the Executive Departments at Richmond for a limited period, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with amendments.

The question being on postponing the same,

It was decided in the negative.

The first amendment of the committee having been read as follows, viz:

In the fourth line, after the word "Executive," insert the words "and legislative," it was agreed to.

The second amendment of the committee was read as follows, viz:

Strike out after the words "fifty per cent," in the fifteenth line, the following: "But it is hereby expressly declared that the increased compensation provided for in this act shall not be paid to any officer or employee of the Government who is liable to perform military duty or is able to bear arms in the field, unless such officer or employee shall first obtain a certificate from the head of the Department in which he is engaged that his services are absolutely necessary to the Government and that his place can not be supplied by any one known to the head of the Department who is not subject to military duty, which said certificate shall be filed with the Secretary of the Treasury before the money is paid; and it shall be the duty of the said Secretary, at the beginning of each session, to communicate a list of all such certificates to Congress."

The amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred a Senate bill (S. 144) to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the same and putting it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 82. An act to grant a special copyright to W. J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzle for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics; and

H. R. 84. An act to authorize the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury west of the Mississippi;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Foote moved that the House take a recess until 7 o'clock.

Mr. Preston moved that the House adjourn.

On the motion to adjourn,

Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas..... 26
 } Nays..... 31

Yeas: Baldwin, Chambers, Clapp, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Strickland.

Nays: Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Lyon, Machen, Martin, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion to adjourn was lost.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the motion of Mr. Foote by striking out "7 o'clock" and inserting "half past 7."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House adjourn.

On which motion Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays:
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 21 [22]
 { Nays ----- 33

Yeas: Baldwin, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Ingram, Lewis, Lyons, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Staples.

Nays: Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Garnett, Goode, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Martin, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to adjourn was lost.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Foote, as amended,
It was decided in the affirmative, and

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

And having reassembled at that hour.

On motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Gray moved a call of the House; which motion was agreed to.

On the call of the roll the following gentlemen answered to their names:

Messrs. Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, E. M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

The following gentlemen were excused, or found absent with leave of the House:

Messrs. Ashe, Atkins, Ayer, Batson, Bell, Clapp, Currin, Curry, Elliott, Harris, Kenan of Georgia, Kenner, Lander, Lyons, McLean, McRae, Miles, Staples, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee.

The following gentlemen were found absent without leave of the House, and not excused:

Messrs. Arrington, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, H. W. Bruce, Burnett, Clark, Dargan, Davis, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Gartrell, Gentry, Graham, Hanly, Herbert, Hodge, Johnston, Marshall, Menees, Moore, Read, Royston, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, and Wright of Texas.

Mr. Gray offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the members who voted for a night session and who have absented themselves be brought to the bar to render their excuses at eleven o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Ralls moved to lay the resolution on the table; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Lyon moved that all further proceedings under the call be dispensed with.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a fine of twenty dollars be entered against those members who were found absent upon the call of the House who were not excused.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the resolution of Mr. Perkins was adopted.

The motion was lost.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Foster,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the special order, which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had said bill under consideration and had come to no conclusion thereon.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Hartridge, resolved itself into open session.

The House having taken a recess until half past 7 o'clock, reassembled at that hour, and being again in secret session, resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the special order, which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Chilton in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had found themselves without a quorum.

Mr. Baldwin moved a call of the House; which motion was agreed to.

Upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Fursten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Gray,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-SEVENTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule requiring a call of the States for memorials, resolutions, etc., be suspended; which motion was agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished

business of yesterday; which was the bill to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session.

Mr. Heiskell called the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of the committee, which is as follows, viz:

Strike out the word "May" and insert in lieu thereof the word "April,"

Mr. Johnston demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 42
 } Nays 40

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Martin, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Vest, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring on its passage.

Mr. Sexton called the question; which was ordered.

And the question being put,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Smith of North Carolina demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 53
 } Nays 25

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Dargan, De Jarnette, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Freeman, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, McRae, Ralls, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Barksdale moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the bill was passed.

Pending which,

Mr. Barksdale moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Upon which motion Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas [and nays];

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 36
 } Nays 34

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Hanly, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Ingram, Johnston, Martin, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Tennessee.

So the motion prevailed, and

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Gardenhire, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following bills, viz:

H. R. 87. An act appropriating \$100,000 for the use and benefit of the Cherokee Nation; and

H. R. 89. An act authorizing chaplains, in certain cases, to draw forage for one horse.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and joint resolution of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 81. An act to prevent the procuring, aiding, and assisting persons to desert from the Army of the Confederate States, and for other purposes; and

H. R. 21. Joint resolution in relation to the war.

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title:

S. 191. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a volunteer navy," approved April 18, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House adjourn.

On which motion Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

{	Yeas	43
}	Nays	31 [32]

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, and Strickland.

Nays: Atkins, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clifton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Heiskell, Hilton, Lander, Machen, Menees, Perkins, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion of Mr. Baldwin prevailed, and

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 182. A bill to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House the Senate bill to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the special order, which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had found themselves without a quorum.

Upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, H. W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clifton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

A quorum having been found to be present,

The House again resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on the special order, which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had said bill under consideration and had come to no conclusion thereon.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 183) entitled "An act to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use;" in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Baldwin,

Resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-EIGHTH DAY THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Marshall.

Mr. Jones moved that the following resolution, adopted on Tuesday last, during the call of the House, be rescinded:

Resolved, That a fine of twenty dollars be entered against the members who were found absent upon a call of the House who were not excused.

The motion was agreed to.

The Speaker laid before the House

A bill to authorize the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury west of the Mississippi; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule requiring the amendments to be referred to a committee be suspended; which motion was agreed to.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

(1) In section 1, lines 3 and 4, strike out the words "Assistant Secretary" and insert the word "agent."

(2) In section 1, line 4, after the word "Treasury," insert the word "Department."

(3) In section 1, line 8, after the word "dollars," insert the words "per annum."

(4) In section 2, line 2, strike out the word "Assistant" and insert the word "agent."

(5) In section 2, line 8, strike out the word "Assistant" and insert the word "agent."

(6) Add the following as section 3:

"That this act shall expire on the day of the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States of America."

(7) Amend the title by striking out the words "Assistant Secretary" and inserting the word "agent," and after the word "Treasury" inserting the word "Department,"

The same were agreed to.

The Speaker also laid before the House

A bill to grant a special copyright to W. J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzel for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics; which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

The bill and amendment were referred to the Committee on Patents.

Also, a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., January 19, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several additional reports of military operations during the last year.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Col. W. D. Holder, member-elect from the Second Congressional district of Mississippi, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Hon. Reuben Davis, appeared, was duly qualified, and took his seat.

By unanimous consent, the following bills, resolutions, memorials, etc., were introduced, adopted, referred, etc.:

By Mr. Miles: Joint resolution of thanks to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for their defense of Charles-

ton, S. C.; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill to authorize the consolidation of companies, battalions, and regiments; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the House all the reports of General Beauregard, connected with the defense of Charleston, which have not hitherto been published.

Adopted.

Also, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the report of the Military Committee, on the claim of General Tochman, made at the last session, be taken from the Calendar of last session, placed upon the present Calendar, and be printed.

Adopted.

By Mr. Barksdale: A bill for the relief of J. and T. Green, proprietors of the Pearl River Mills, Mississippi; read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Hanly: The following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be, and they are hereby, instructed to report to this House whether in their opinion any legislation is necessary to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to pay for cotton subscribed to the cotton loan and destroyed by order of the military authorities before it was delivered under the terms and conditions of the loan; and if not, that they inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill authorizing such payment under such terms as may be prescribed.

Adopted.

By Mr. Gartrell: Memorial of William H. Chase, assistant paymaster in the Navy, praying relief for expenses incurred, etc.; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Lyon: Memorial of Mrs. Elizabeth Hoit, of Sumter County, Ala., and of sundry others, in her behalf, praying Congress, for reasons stated, to release to her the interest of her brother, John M. Hair, in the estate of their father, the late James Hair, instead of confiscating the same; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, the memorial of A. K. Shepard, of Perry County, Ala., praying compensation for slaves employed in the public service and lost from exposure; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Garnett: A bill for the relief of S. B. Bargess and H. E. Coles; read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Clapp: Claim of S. J. Alexander for property taken by soldiers in the Confederate service; referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, the claim of W. E. Persons for property damaged by soldiers in the Confederate service; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Swan: The claim of James A. Wright for corn taken by Confederate authorities; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Smith of North Carolina: A bill to be entitled "An act amendatory of the act entitled 'An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States,' approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;"

read first and second times and referred to the Special Committee on the Currency.

By Mr. Smith of Alabama: Memorial of J. W. Thomas, jr., and other Government clerks in Richmond, praying increased compensation, etc.; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing that the clerks and other employees in the executive and legislative departments of the Government in Richmond be allowed to draw rations, and that said committee report by bill or otherwise.

By Mr. Singleton: Claim of W. S. Yerger for \$3,000, value of negro man killed whilst in service of the Government at Columbus, Ga.; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Read: Memorial of Gen. W. J. Hardee in relation to Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics; laid on table and ordered to be printed.

By Mr. Perkins: Resolutions:

Resolved, That, pending the suspension of exchange of prisoners of war, it is the duty of Congress to give expression to their sympathies for the brave citizen soldiers who have, by the fortune of war, been consigned to a foreign prison, and that every effort made by the President to alleviate their condition and supply their necessities will meet the cordial concurrence of Congress.

Resolved, That, until the enemy shall consent to renew the exchange of prisoners under the cartel, the Congress will cheerfully make all necessary appropriations for supplying the wants of our fellow-citizens now in the hands of the enemy.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of Congress, it is advisable to endeavor to make an agreement with the enemy for permitting the prisoners on each side to be attended by a proper number of their own surgeons, to be mutually permitted, under rules to be established, to take charge of the health and comforts of the prisoners; and also to act as commissaries of prisoners, with power to receive and distribute among the prisoners all contributions made by their friends, or by the respective Governments, of articles of food, clothing, and medicine.

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to Congress the present state of the questions pending between the two Governments relative to the exchange of prisoners.

By Mr. Chambers: Petition of citizens of Copiah County, Miss., praying relief for George W. Gilmore from the tax on auctioneers; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Graham: Memorial of R. S. Parham and other detailed soldiers, praying increased compensation; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also, memorial from the female clerks of the Treasury Department, asking increase of compensation; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. Lyons: Claim of John and George Gibson for work performed toward building a room on the portico of the Capitol; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Macwillie: Memorial of M. and R. Armijo and Julian Tesorio, asserting claims; referred to the Committee on Claims.

By Mr. Lewis: Resolution:

Resolved, That the President inform this House, as soon as practicable, what legislation, if any, is necessary to save the productive power of the planting interest from the damages which may ensue from the enforcement of the clauses of the act in relation to the tax in kind, which requires planters within a certain distance of the railroad to deliver the taxes in kind to Government depots.

Adopted.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the President: which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 19, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 11th instant, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War relative to the "collection and distribution of the 'tax in kind' under the act approved April 24, 1863."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Gartrell, resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill of the Senate to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Barksdale to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed,

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	42
Nays	40

Yeas: Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, and Trippe.

Nays: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Dargan, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Ingram, Johnston, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Read, Russell, Sexton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Foote called the question; which was not ordered.

Mr. Foster moved that the bill be recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary, and called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to recommit prevailed.

Mr. Hilton moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the bill was recommitted.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 191) to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a volunteer navy," approved April 18, 1863; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Gardenhire, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 21. Joint resolution in relation to the war; and

H. R. 81. An act to prevent the procuring, aiding, and assisting persons to desert from the Army of the Confederate States, and for other purposes.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Foster, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 196) entitled "An act to extend the provisions of an act entitled 'An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers,' approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, informing the House that on the 19th instant the President approved and signed

An act (H. R. 86, secret) entitled "An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States from the State of Missouri."

Mr. Hilton moved that the House take a recess until 7.30 o'clock.

Mr. Garnett moved that the House adjourn.

Upon the motion to adjourn Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays; Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 33
 } Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Burnett, Clapp, De Jarnette, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Martin, Miles, Mummerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the House refused to adjourn.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Hilton, that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Having reassembled,

The House, on motion of Mr. Jones, again resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session, and

On motion of Mr. McQueen,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Speaker laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 183) to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use.

Mr. Jones moved that the bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole; which motion was lost.

Mr. Perkins moved that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Curry moved to reconsider the vote by which the Senate bill to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense was referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Curry moved that said bill be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means; which latter motion was also agreed to.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, to consider the special order, which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had said bill under consideration and had come to no conclusion thereon.

On motion of Mr. Garnett.

The House resolved itself into open session.

The House having taken a recess until half past 7 o'clock, and reassembled at that hour, and being in secret session, again resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, on the special order, which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, Mr. Curry in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had under consideration the subject referred to them, and recommended that the bill do pass with sundry amendments.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question.

The demand was not sustained.

Mr. Atkins moved that the House resolve itself into open session. Upon which motion Mr. Hartridge demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yea	44
Nay	30

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Collier, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Gaither, Gartrell, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Barksdale, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hart-ridge, Holcombe, Jones, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Strickland, Tibbs, and Wilcox.

So the motion prevailed, and

The House resolved itself into open session.

THIRTY-NINTH DAY—FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall.

Mr. Miles, under a suspension of the rules, moved that the Committee on Military Affairs have leave to report at any time.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the motion of Mr. Miles by striking out the same and inserting the following:

That all committees be allowed to file their reports with the Clerk, to be entered on the Calendar of Business in their appropriate places.

The amendment of Mr. Baldwin was lost, and the motion of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved that for the remainder of the session the rule requiring the call of the States for resolutions, memorials, etc., be suspended.

No quorum voting.

Mr. Jones moved a call of the House; which was agreed to.

Upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

A quorum having been found to be present.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell, all further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Jones to suspend the rule requiring the States to be called,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule be suspended requiring a call of the States this morning; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Swan, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill for the relief of Capt. Joseph A. McRady, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims.

The question being on referring the bill to the Committee on Claims,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by inserting before the word "accounts" the word "pay."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill having been engrossed and read a third time,

Mr. Miles moved that it be referred to the Committee on Claims; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Wilcox, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to authorize the President to assign judges of military courts from one court to another,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,
It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Wilcox, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill to authorize commanders of corps and departments to detail field officers as members of military courts under certain circumstances,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and troops of his division for the gallantry displayed by them in the battle of Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, on the 27th of November last,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment (in the nature of a substitute).

The question being on postponing the same,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendment was read as follows, and agreed to:

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to Major-General Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and men of his command for the victory obtained by them over superior forces of the enemy at Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, on the twenty-seventh day of November, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, by which the advance of the enemy was impeded, our wagon train and most of our artillery saved, and a large number of the enemy killed and wounded.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate the foregoing resolution to Major-General Cleburne and his command.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The amendment of the committee to the title, which is as follows, was agreed to:

Joint resolution of thanks to Major-General Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and men of his command for distinguished service at Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, November twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred a Senate joint resolution

S. 20. Joint resolution of thanks to Major Von Boreke, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the same,

It was decided in the negative, and the joint resolution was read a third time and passed unanimously.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A bill to create an invalid corps, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Read moved that the bill be postponed until to-morrow morning, after the reading of the Journal; which motion was agreed to.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Dargan, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Anderson; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 51. An act to fix the pay and allowances of the master armorer of the Confederate States Armory at Richmond, Va.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 75. An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March 26, 1863, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April 27, 1863.

The Senate have passed a bill and joint resolution of the following titles, viz:

S. 167. An act to amend an act to provide a mode of authenticating claims for money against the Confederate States not otherwise provided for, approved August 30, 1861; and

S. 23. Joint resolution in relation to the salaries of the judges of the district courts of the Confederate States for the State of Virginia;

In which amendments, bill, and joint resolution I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Gardenhire, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 84. A bill to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Anderson; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 180) entitled "An act to provide for the investigation and settlement of the transactions and accounts of quartermasters, commissaries, contractors, and other financial and disbursing officers, agents, and employees of the Confederate States;" in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Curry, took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

And having reassembled.

On motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

On motion of Mr. Clapp,

The House adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Dargan, under a suspension of the rules, moved that the bill to ratify and confirm a contract entered into by the Secretary of the Treasury on the part of the Confederate States and Messrs. Emile Erlanger & Co., be recommitted to the Select Committee on the Foreign Loan.

The motion was agreed to.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government.

Mr. Swan, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That debate on the amendments of the committee be limited to five minutes, and that no member be allowed to address the House more than once on any amendment.

The first amendment of the committee was agreed to as follows, viz:

Insert, in line 11, section 1, after the word "*Provided*," the words "That on all such property within the Confederacy owned by one not a citizen of the Confederate States, or by a citizen of the Confederate States residing outside of the Confederacy, and not in the public service, the tax shall be ten per cent: *And provided*."

The second amendment, which is as follows, viz:

In line 16, section 1, strike out the word "three" and insert "two,"
was agreed to.

The third amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 2, line 4, after the word "cloths," insert the words "cotton yarns;" after the word "hats" insert the words "shoes, boots," and after the word "iron" insert the words "spirituous liquors."

Mr. Swan moved to amend the first section by inserting after the word "mixed," in line 1, the words "except slaves."

The amendment was lost.

The fourth amendment of the committee was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 2, clause 2, line 11, after the word "cotton," insert the words "except fifteen pounds ginned cotton for each member of a family."

Mr. Ingram moved to amend the second clause of section 2 by striking out, in line 11, the word "twenty" and inserting "ten."

Upon which Mr. McQueen demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yea	33
Nays	40

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Dargan, Farrow, Foster, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McQueen, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, Wilcox, and Mr Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, DeJarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, Machen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Strickland, Tibbs, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Curry submitted the following amendment to the second clause of section 2 (in the nature of a substitute):

On the value of all cotton, except fifteen pounds ginned cotton for each member of a family, tobacco and naval stores, held or owned by any other than the producer or grower, twenty per cent, but when held and owned by the producer, ten per cent,

And thereon demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yea	35	[37]
Nays	31	[30]

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Mun-

nerlyn, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, De Jarnette, Dupré, Freeman, Gardenhire, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lyon, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Strickland, Tibbs, and Welsh.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett submitted the following amendment, to come in after the second clause of the second section:

On all lands purchased since the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, twenty-five per cent, to be assessed at the price paid therefor: *Provided*, That this shall not apply to any lands on which the purchaser is habitually residing or actually cultivating under their own superintendence, in good faith, nor to any lands purchased by persons who, since the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, have sold other lands for two-thirds of the value of their purchase.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the amendment by inserting after the word "lands" the words "houses and lots."

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Garnett,

Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	49
Nays	24

Yeas: Arrington, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boyce, Chambers, Clopton, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Lyons, McDowell, Miles, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Clapp called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Garnett by striking out the words "to be assessed at the price paid therefor."

The amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Dargan submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Garnett: which was agreed to, viz:

Add at the end the words "*Provided*, The tax shall not apply to purchases made by trustees, executors, or guardians for their beneficiaries."

Mr. Swan submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Garnett, as amended, to come in at the end:

And provided further, That it shall not apply to purchases made with Confederate Treasury notes received at par in payment of debts contracted before the war.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and his amendment to the amendment was lost.

Mr. Wright of Texas moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Garnett, as amended, by striking out "eighteen hundred and sixty-three" and inserting "eighteen hundred and sixty-two."

Mr. Gardenhire moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Garnett, as amended, on the table.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Clapp called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Wright of Texas to the amendment as amended was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina submitted the following amendment to the amendment to the amendment of Mr. Garnett, as amended:

Insert after the words "by persons" the words "who since January first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, have made sale of real or personal estate, or received money on notes existing on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, the proceeds whereof have been applied in payment therefor."

The amendment of Mr. Smith was lost.

Mr. Gardenhire submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Garnett, as amended:

Add at end thereof the words "*Provided*, This tax shall not apply to refugees."

The amendment of Mr. Gardenhire was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Swan to the amendment of Mr. Garnett was lost.

Mr. Curry demanded the previous question.

The demand was not sustained.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The amendment of Mr. Swan was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Garnett, as amended,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas -----	40 [41]
Nays -----	35

Yeas: Arrington, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Ladd, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Swan, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boyce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Dupré, Gardenhire, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Johnston, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment of Mr. Garnett was agreed to.

The fifth amendment of the committee was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 3, line 1, insert after the word "coin" the words "gold dust, gold or silver bullion, whether held by banks or individuals."

Mr. Singleton submitted the following amendment:

In section 3, line 2, strike out the words "to be assessed and collected in kind" and insert in lieu thereof the words "ten per cent."

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Singleton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	28
{ Nays	36

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Clapp, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Garnett, Gray, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Kenan of Georgia, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment of Mr. Singleton was lost.

Mr. Swan submitted the following amendment to the fifth amendment of the committee:

After the word "bank" insert the words "or other corporations."

The amendment of Mr. Swan was agreed to.

Mr. Ralls moved to amend the third section by striking out the word "five," in the first line, and inserting the word "three."

Upon which Mr. Singleton demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Ralls was lost.

Mr. Dargan demanded the previous question.

Upon which Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	49
{ Nays	26

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Holder, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Conrad, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, Menees, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, Villeré, and Welsh.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the demand for the previous question was not sustained.

The sixth amendment of the committee was agreed to as follows, viz:

Add at the end of line 2, clause 1, section 3, the following words: "And upon all moneys held abroad, or upon the amount of all bills of exchange drawn therefor on foreign countries, a tax of five per cent, such tax upon money abroad to be assessed and collected according to the value thereof at the place where the tax is paid."

The seventh amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 3, clause 2, line 3, after the word "all," insert the word "solvent," and after the word "credits" strike out the words "of value."

The eighth amendment of the committee having been read as follows, viz:

In section 3, clause 2, line 4, after the word "bonds," strike out the words "and Treasury notes."

Mr. Lyon demanded the yeas [and nays] thereon;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 33
 } Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gardenhire, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Swan, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambliss, Clapp, Collier, Crockett, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Freeman, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Staples, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Trippe submitted the following amendment:

In section 3, clause 2, line 4, strike out after the word "bonds" the words "and Treasury notes of the Confederate States and of all other paper used as currency, five per cent," and insert the words "of the Confederate States interest-bearing Treasury notes, or all other paper used as currency, except Treasury notes, five per cent; and on all other Treasury notes, except those of the denomination of five dollars and under, twelve and a half per cent."

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Trippe was lost.

Mr. Boyce moved to amend section 3 by striking out the word "bonds," in the fourth line of the second clause.

Upon which Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

Pending which.

The House, on motion of Mr. Garnett, resolved itself into open session.

The House having taken a recess until 7.30 o'clock, reassembled at that hour;

And being again in secret session,

The yeas and nays, which had been ordered on the amendment of Mr. Boyce,

Were recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 37
 } Nays ----- 31

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Vest, and Wilcox.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Gardenhire, Gray, Hanly, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Machen,

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Collier, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton,

Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Trippe, and Welsh.

So the amendment of Mr. Chambers was lost.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out all of the second clause in section 3 and insert the following:

"Upon the amount of all solvent credits and of all bank bills and bonds of the Confederate States, and on all other paper used as currency, exclusive of Confederate Treasury notes, five per cent; and on all Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, twenty-five per cent."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Chilton was lost.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Garnett was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out all of the second clause of section 3 and insert the following:

"Upon the amount of all solvent credits and of all bank bills and all other paper used as currency, exclusive of Confederate Treasury notes, five per cent; and on all Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, except interest-bearing Treasury notes, twenty-five per cent."

Mr. Trippe moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Chilton by striking out "twenty-five per cent" and inserting "ten per cent."

Mr. Machen demanded the previous question.

Upon which Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the demand for the previous question was sustained.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Trippe to the amendment of Mr. Chilton,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Chilton,

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Chilton to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Garnett was agreed to,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Garnett,

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yea	24
Nay	44

Yeas: Bridgers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Conrow, Crockett, De Jarnette, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Garnett, Holder, Lander, Lewis, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, Singleton, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Miles, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Trippe, and Wilcox.

The eleventh amendment of the committee was read as follows, viz:

On the amount of all Treasury notes outstanding at the date of the passage of this act a tax of twenty-five per cent: *Provided*, One-half this tax shall be remitted in

favor of any taxpayer under the act of the twenty-fourth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to which this is amendatory, or under this act, who may pay his taxes imposed by either of said acts, on or by the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, if assessed and ascertained by the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, then one-half the tax shall be remitted on any amount of Treasury notes deposited in the Treasury, or any one of the depositories, on or by the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and subsequently applied in payment of any taxes imposed by either of said acts. But all such Treasury notes not so paid in taxes or deposited to be applied in payment of taxes as aforesaid by the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, shall be subject to the tax of twenty-five per cent, and every holder of said Treasury notes shall on or (before?) the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, pay into the Treasury, or some one of the depositories, the tax hereby imposed, and upon making such payment shall receive evidence stamped on the remainder of the notes in such mode as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe of the payment of the tax on such notes, and any such Treasury note on which said tax shall not have been paid by the first of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and the evidence of such payment thereon shall no longer be received in payment of public dues, except at the rate of twenty-five cents in the dollar, nor shall any such Treasury notes not so stamped be circulated or used as circulation, except at the rate of seventy-five cents in the dollar thereof, as aforesaid.

The amendment was not agreed to.

The twelfth amendment, which is as follows, was lost:

The tax in the foregoing paragraph shall not apply to interest-bearing Treasury notes and Treasury notes of and under the denomination of five dollars.

The thirteenth amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

Strike out the third and fourth clauses of the third section; which are as follows, viz:

"III. On the aggregate amount of all debts exceeding five hundred dollars contracted prior to the first January, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and paid with Treasury notes or bonds of the Confederate States at par on the first July, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and the first April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to be assessed against the party who so owned and paid such debts, ten per cent.

"IV. On the aggregate amount of all debts exceeding five hundred dollars contracted prior to the first January, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and paid between the first April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and the passage of this act, to be assessed against the party who so owned and paid such debts, twenty per cent."

The fourteenth amendment, which is as follows, was agreed to:

In section 4, paragraph 1, in line 2, after the word "selling," insert "spirituous liquors," and in line 4 of same paragraph, after the word "cattle," insert "horses, mules," and after the word "leather," insert "boots, shoes, cotton, yarns, wool."

The fifteenth amendment, which is as follows, was agreed to:

In the second paragraph of section 4, line 8, after the word "selling," insert the words "money, gold, silver, foreign exchange, stocks, notes, debts, credits, or obligations of any kind."

The sixteenth amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 6, paragraph 1, line 4, strike out the words "living in" and insert in lieu thereof the word "of."

The seventeenth amendment was agreed to, viz:

In section 6, paragraph 3, line 15, after the word "service," insert the words "or of such as have been disabled in such service."

The eighteenth amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

Amend by adding an additional paragraph to section 6 as follows, viz:

"IV. Property destroyed by or under the control or in the occupancy of the enemy, or of the use or enjoyment of which the owner is, and has been for twelve months preceding the passage of this act, deprived by the presence or proximity of the enemy, or where there has been a partial destruction or temporary possession by the enemy of property, or injuries done to the same within the time designated, then the tax upon such property shall be reduced in proportion to the diminished value thereof."

The nineteenth amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 6, paragraph 5, line 17, after the word "property," insert the words "and bonds issued by," and after the word "and," in the same line, insert the words "the property."

The twentieth amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 7, line 4, strike out the word "sixty" and insert "ninety."

The twenty-first amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

Add at end of section 7 the words "*Provided*, That in calculating the tax of five per cent on the value of property employed in agriculture, the collection of three per cent thereof shall be suspended until the value of the tax in kind for eighteen hundred and sixty-four shall be assessed and ascertained."

The twenty-second amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 8, line 2, after the word "on," strike out the words "which an ad valorem" and insert "the amount or value of which a."

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote just taken by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Garland called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Johnston demanded the yeas and nays.

Pending which,

Mr. Trippe moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion was lost.

The yeas and nays demanded by Mr. Johnston were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 47
Nays ----- 25

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Freeman, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Chambers, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foster, Garnett, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Johnston, Lewis, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Preston, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Chambliss moved that the Clerk be authorized to furnish the chairman of the committee on military [affairs?] of the house of delegates of the Virginia legislature with a copy of the bill, which recently passed the Senate in secret session, to organize forces [to serve] during the war.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FORTIETH DAY—SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Marshall.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 23) in relation to the salaries of the judges of the district courts of the Confederate States for the State of Virginia; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 167) to amend an act to provide a mode of authenticating claims for money against the Confederate States not otherwise provided for, approved August 30, 1861; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 180) to provide for the investigation and settlement of the transactions and accounts of quartermasters, commissaries, contractors, and other financial and disbursing officers, agents, and employees of the Confederate States.

The bill having been read a first and second time,

Mr. Swan moved that it be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Foote moved to amend the motion of Mr. Swan by striking out "Judiciary" and inserting "Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments;" which latter motion prevailed, and the motion of Mr. Swan, as amended, was agreed to.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 196) to extend the provisions of an act entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers," approved May 1, 1863.

The bill having been read a first and second time,

Mr. Jones moved that the rule be suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee; which motion was agreed to.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The Chair laid before the House a bill (H. R. 75) to be entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;" which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The bill and amendments were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By unanimous consent,

Mr. Barksdale introduced

A bill supplemental to the several acts in relation to public printing; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. McQueen presented the petition of Evander Byrd, praying relief for taxes overpaid; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Perkins offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to inquire and report as to the practicability and cost of having prepared and printed an "analytical digest of all the acts of Congress" from the time of the meeting of the Provisional Congress to the close of the present session; also, what would be the cost of having prepared and printed for the use of the Government a similar digest of all the "naval and military laws" of Congress, and whether it will be practicable to have one or both of these works ready for delivery at the time of the meeting of the next Congress.

Mr. Heiskell moved that the message of the President and accompanying documents in reference to the payment of assessment of damages made by commanding officers in the field "without intervention of courts-martial or boards of survey" be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to authorize the appointment of additional artillery officers for ordnance duties; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Ingram offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Claims be requested to inquire into the causes of delay in auditing and settling the claims due to the families and relatives of soldiers who have died or been killed in service, and if any legislation be necessary to expedite the business, that said committee be requested to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of Robert Cochran and other clerks in the civil departments of the Government, praying increased compensation.

Mr. Jones moved that the memorial be referred to a select committee of five members.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved that the Senate bill increasing the compensation of the clerks, which is now on the table, and the memorials, etc., referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, be referred to the select committee of five.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three," was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

And the question recurring on referring the bill to said committee, It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Russell moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill and amendments to be referred to a committee.

The motion prevailed.

The first amendment of the Senate, which is as follows, was lost:

Strike out the first section of the bill.

The second amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

In line 10, section 3, after the word "held," insert the words "and appropriated."

The third amendment was agreed to, viz:

In line 3, section 4, after the word "impressed," insert the words "which shall be a just compensation for the property so impressed, at the time and place of impressment."

The fourth amendment, which is as follows, was lost:

In line 4, section 4, strike out all after the word "impressment" down to and including the word "away," in line 6.

The fifth amendment, which is as follows, was lost:

Strike out section 8.

The sixth amendment was agreed to as follows, viz:

Add the following independent section:

"SEC. —. Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the impressing officer to enter an appeal from any decision of the local appraisers, under the seventh section of the act to which this is amendatory."

Mr. Miles offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress are hereby tendered to all of the brigades and other troops in the service who have taken the patriotic and gallant resolution to reenlist for the war.

Resolved, That the manifestation of such a spirit in our armies is a happy omen of the ultimate triumph of our struggle for independence, indicative as it is of the fixed determination of our people never to lay down their arms while our soil is exposed to the hostile tread and barbarous ravages of our malignant enemies.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Gray introduced

A bill to be entitled "An act supplemental to the several acts relating to military courts;"

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Gartrell presented the memorial of William F. Clayton, midshipman, Confederate States Navy, praying increased compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Gartrell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for an increase of the pay of midshipmen in the Navy, and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Conrad presented the claim of Lieut. Charles E. Liverick for \$275 for horse killed in battle; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Conrad offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments inquire into and report to this House the facts connected with a certain contract entered into in December, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, by Major A. B. Magruder, assistant commissary of subsistence, or by his assistant, Captain Deane, acting commissary of subsistence, for a quantity of beef to supply the force then stationed at Wilmington, North Carolina, under the command of General Whiting, and the subsequent disapproval of said contract by the Commissary-General—whether said disapproval was correct and proper or the reverse, and whether the Government sustained any and what loss thereby.

Mr. Curry presented the petition of J. M. Kidd, of Alabama, asking that bonds be delivered to him for beef furnished under his subscription to the produce loan; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Chambliss offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs inquire into the propriety of passing a resolution authorizing the President of the Confederate States to place John Dunderdall on the list of boatswains of the Confederate States Navy.

The House then resumed consideration of the bill to be entitled "An act to create an invalid corps;" which, on motion of Mr. Miles, was postponed until Tuesday morning next.

Mr. Miles moved that the rules be suspended to take up for consideration the bill from the Calendar to increase the efficiency of the Army by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain cases.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the first section of the bill by adding at the end thereof the following:

And no free negro engaged in the production of food or forage shall be taken under this act.

Pending which,

The House, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Miles moved that the House go into secret session for the purpose of allowing the Committee on Military Affairs to report a bill.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the motion was agreed to.

The House accordingly resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Hilton, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the resolution requiring the House to take daily a recess from three thirty to six o'clock postmeridian be, and the same is hereby, rescinded.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to authorize payment for property destroyed and injured by reason of military necessities, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it be referred to the Committee on Claims and ordered to be printed; which was agreed to.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Foster,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Preston, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the amount placed at the disposal of the President to be used in the foreign service.

On motion of Mr. Lyons, it was ordered to be certified upon the record that had he been present he would have voted against the passage of the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government.

Mr. Gartrell that he would have voted "aye."

The question recurring on the amendment of the committee, which is as follows, viz:

Which were ordered,

Nays: Conrad, Dargan, Dupré, Garnett, Johnston, Lyons, Martin, Smith of Alabama, and Swan.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Machen moved that the consideration of the special orders preceding the Senate bill to provide for the organization of forces [to serve] during the war be postponed for the purpose of taking up that bill for consideration.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved that the consideration of the Senate bill be postponed; which motion was agreed to.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Preston, resolved itself into open session.

The House being again in secret session,

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to continue in service all troops now in the military service of the Confederate States,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Foote submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of section 1 the words "but that all regiments, battalions, and companies shall be allowed to elect the officers who are to command them."

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-FIRST DAY—MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Burrows.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 190) to regulate the collection of the tax in kind upon tobacco, and to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill to be referred to a committee.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question thereon; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Gartrell moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Gartrell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Doorkeeper of the House be instructed to furnish the President and the heads of Departments with copies of each document required to be printed by this body unless otherwise directed.

Mr. Chilton moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a report from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to which had been referred a Senate bill (S. 159) to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary, to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi River, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendment of the committee was read and agreed to as follows, viz:

Insert, in the twentieth line, after the word "River," the following: "And the Postmaster-General is hereby authorized to order the transfer from the offices of

assistant treasurers west of said river, with whom funds belonging to the Post-Office Department may be deposited, to such postmasters as he may designate, and the funds so transferred shall be subject to the draft of said Assistant Postmaster-General, for the payment of the liabilities of the Department."

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Barksdale offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to inform this House what steps have been taken to carry out the provisions of the act of Congress of the thirteenth October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, chapter sixty-two, in relation to the arrest and disposition of slaves who have been recaptured from the enemy, what number of depots for their safe-keeping have been established, and whether public notice has been given in the newspapers of their arrest, as provided in said act.

Mr. Foote moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the bill to continue in service all troops now in the military service of the Confederate States be hereafter considered in open session.

Upon which Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Lyons, from the special committee to investigate charges of corruption against a member of this House, submitted the following report:

The committee appointed to investigate the charge of corruption, made in the Richmond Examiner of the 7th day of January, 1864, have, according to order, performed that duty, and now respectfully report that they have carefully examined every witness and source of information indicated to them, or which suggested itself and was within their control, and have found nothing to sustain the charge. Members of Congress are frequently called upon to vouch for the personal responsibility of their constituents and acquaintances who are unknown to the passport office, and they can not, with propriety, decline. It would be unkind, as well as discourteous, to do so, and when truthfully and honestly performed the act imports no wrong. It is due to the editor of the Examiner, Mr. Daniel, to state that when called upon for the author of the article in his paper that he promptly gave the name of one of his local reporters, and declared that when he saw the article in type he forbade its publication, because he knew nothing of the truth of it, and it was subsequently published inadvertently. The committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the charge.

The recommendation of the committee was agreed to, and the report was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this House it is eminently desirable, in order to secure the comfortable subsistence of our valiant armies and to allay discontents known to exist in certain rural districts, that the present Commissary-General should be removed and a suitable successor appointed in his place.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was not ordered.

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Upon which motion Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 46 [48]
 { Nays 20

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Fuusten,

Garland, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Swan, Tibbs, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Boyce, Chambliss, Conrad, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Holder, Lander, Machen, McLean, Miles, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, and Villeré.

So the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads inquire into the expediency of providing by law for settling on equitable terms the accounts of mail contractors in cases where, though prepared to perform their contracts, they have been prevented from doing so by incursions of the public enemy.

Mr. Chilton offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Claims inquire whether provision should not be made by law for auditing and paying accounts against the Government for horses impressed and actually received into the service of the Confederate States, but which have been rejected by the Pay Department on account of some informality in the appointment of impressing officers, or in the certificates of the officers making such impressments, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Curry introduced

A bill to preserve the efficiency and extend the usefulness of old fire companies;

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lyon presented the memorial of R. R. Pickering, of Marengo County, Ala., praying compensation for a slave lost in the public service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Atkins offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing by law military courts for the Department of West Tennessee and North Mississippi.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been recommitted the Senate bill to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session, with an amendment which had been adopted by the House, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the House recede from its amendment, and that the bill do pass as it came from the Senate.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the bill by striking out the word "May" and inserting the words "nineteenth February."

Mr. Hilton moved to postpone the consideration of the bill to the 15th next month, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to postpone was lost.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 22d instant the President approved and signed the following joint resolution and acts:

H. R. 21. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution in relation to the war;"

H. R. 81. An act entitled "An act to prevent the procuring, aiding, and assisting persons to desert from the Army of the Confederate States, and for other purposes;"

H. R. 87. An act entitled "An act appropriating one hundred thousand dollars for the use and benefit of the Cherokee Nation;" also,

H. R. 89. An act entitled "An act authorizing chaplains, in certain cases, to draw forage for one horse."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,

Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *January 25, 1864.*

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with an amendment, a bill of this House (H. R. 79) entitled "An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy;" in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Hilton moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Menees moved to amend the motion by striking out "half past."

Mr. Preston moved that the House adjourn; which motion was lost.

Mr. Garnett moved a call of the House.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the House adjourn.

Upon which motion Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas-----	31
Nays-----	44

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Chambers, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foote, Funsten, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Kenan of Georgia, Lyon, Lyons, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Preston, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Atkins, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion to adjourn was lost.

The amendment of Mr. Menees to the motion of Mr. Hilton was lost.

The Chair announced the appointment of the special committee on the petition of the clerks for increase of pay, etc., as follows, viz:

Messrs. Lyons of Virginia, Heiskell of Tennessee, McRae of Mississippi, Simpson of South Carolina, and Ewing of Kentucky.

The motion of Mr. Hilton was then agreed to, and

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Having reassembled,

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 25, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 11th ultimo, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, showing, as far as the records of the Department

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of section 1 the following: "*Provided*, That State troops, which have been temporarily called out and placed under the authority of the Confederate Government, shall be excepted from the operation of this act."

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Miles (in the nature of a substitute therefor):

Provided, That troops organized for local defense and for a limited period shall not be retained in the Confederate service beyond the period for which they were organized, but, at the expiration of the period for which they were organized, if not previously disbanded, they shall be disbanded, and all such as are between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years shall be placed in the permanent service in the Provisional Army.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Chilton was lost.

Mr. Farrow submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Miles:

Add at the end the words "except those who may be over the age of forty-five years, and who are now in the Confederate service temporarily for local defense under State organizations."

The amendment of Mr. Farrow was lost.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the amendment of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Miles submitted the following as an additional amendment to the first section, to come in at the end of his first amendment:

Provided further, The troops raised in any one State shall not be continued in regimental, battalion, or squadron organization with troops raised in any other State.

Mr. H. W. Bruce moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miles by adding the following:

Provided, That all citizens of Kentucky serving in companies, battalions, and regiments other than from Kentucky shall, on application to the Secretary of War, be transferred to some military organization from Kentucky, such as may be selected by the applicant.

Mr. Conrow moved to amend the amendment of Mr. H. W. Bruce by inserting the word "Missouri" after the word "Kentucky."

Mr. Kenan of Georgia moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Bruce and the amendment of Mr. Conrow on the table.

Upon which motion Mr. H. W. Bruce demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Machen submitted the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Add at the end of section 2 the following: "*Provided*, That soldiers from one State serving in companies from other States shall be allowed, if they choose, to transfer to organizations from their own State in the same arm of the service."

Mr. Chambliss submitted the following amendment:

In section 3, after the word "service," insert the words "and shall have been in the service for two years preceding."

Mr. Atkins moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Chambliss on the table; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Miller submitted the following amendment to section 3, to come in at the end:

And provided further, That the bonds authorized by this act to be issued to the soldiers shall be secured, for the payment of their principal and interest, by all the securities of taxation and revenue that are now pledged or may hereafter be pledged by any act of Congress for any bonds of the Government; and further, that said bonds shall possess a distinctive character upon their face as to their purpose, either by indorsement or superscription, in such form as the Secretary of War may direct.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Miller was agreed to.

Mr. Garnett moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the amendment of Mr. Miller was agreed to.

Pending which,

The House, on motion of Mr. Preston, resolved itself into open session.

Being again in secret session,

Mr. Pugh submitted the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 4. That on the first day of May next, in addition to the pay and allowances now provided by law, twenty dollars of any new issue of Treasury notes authorized during the present session of Congress shall be paid to every noncommissioned officer, musician, and private who shall then be in service, or, in the event of his death previous to the period of said payment, then to the person or persons that would be entitled by law to receive his arrearages of pay: *Provided*, That no one shall be entitled to the twenty dollars who shall, at any time between the passage of this act and the first of May next, be absent from his command without leave.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Pugh by striking out the words "of any new issue of Treasury notes during the present session of Congress."

Mr. Gardenhire called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Conrad was agreed to.

The amendment of Mr. Pugh, as amended, was also agreed to.

Mr. Garland submitted the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 5. That furloughs not exceeding sixty days, with transportation home and back, shall be granted to those retained in the service by the provisions of this act, said furloughs to be granted at such times and in such numbers as the general commanding the department to which the applicant for furlough belongs may deem most compatible with the public interest: *Provided*, That in lieu of a furlough the commutation value in money of the transportation herein above granted shall be paid to each private, musician, or noncommissioned officer who may elect to receive it, at such time as the furlough would otherwise be granted: *Provided further*, That no such furlough shall be granted to any noncommissioned officer, musician, or private who has at any time been absent from his command without leave until all others have been furloughed, and then only at the discretion of the commanding general.

Mr. Gardenhire called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Garland demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 30
 { Nays----- 45

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Martin, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Welsh.

Nays: Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett,

Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Trippe submitted the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 5. This act shall not apply to such officers, privates, and musicians as are under eighteen and over forty-five years of age, and who are not substitutes: *Provided*, They are not, at the expiration of their present term of service, liable to enrollment under the laws then in force.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Trippe was lost.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the motion of Mr. Garnett to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Miller was adopted on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was lost.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miller by striking out the words

to be issued to the soldiers, shall be secured to the payment of their principal and interest by all the securities of taxation and revenue that are now pledged, or may hereafter be pledged, by any act of Congress for any bonds of the Government, and further that said bonds.

Mr. Jones moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Miller and the amendment to his amendment on the table.

The motion prevailed.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Lewis moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to its engrossment.

Mr. Chambliss called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Jones moved to strike out the third section of the bill; which reads as follows, viz:

SEC. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That six months after the first day of April next a bounty of one hundred dollars in a six per cent Government bond, which the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue, shall be paid to every noncommissioned officer, musician, and private who shall then be in service, or, in the event of his death previous to the period of said payment, then to the person or persons that would be entitled by law to receive the arrearages of his pay: *Provided*, That no one shall be entitled to the bounty herein provided who shall, at any time during the six months ensuing after the first day of April next, be absent from his command without leave.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 24
 } Nays ----- 46

Yeas: Boyce, Chrisman, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Gray, Hartridge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Singleton, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler,

Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Davidson, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Martin, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Preston, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Strickland, Swan, and Welsh.

So the motion to strike out was lost.

Mr. Atkins submitted the following amendment to the third section:

Add at the end the following: "*Provided further*, That said bonds shall not be transferable."

Mr. Heiskell called the question.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question: which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Atkins,

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	22
{ Nays	48

Yeas: Atkins, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Garland, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Preston, Pugh, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villére, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Foote moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Barksdale called the question.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question; which was ordered.

The motion to recommit was lost, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the title of the bill by striking out the word "service" and inserting the words "Provisional Army," so that it will read:

A bill to be entitled "An act to continue in service for the war all troops now in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Hartridge,

Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-SECOND DAY—TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Keen.

The Chair laid before the House the proceedings of a meeting of the One hundred and fifty-fourth Senior Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, with reference to the organization of the Army: which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Also, a memorial from the Army of Northern Virginia, asking that field officers disabled in the service should be provided for; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Gray, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to enable the Government to procure cotton to purchase arms and army supplies for the defense of the Trans-Mississippi Department;

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Read presented the memorial of Capt. W. T. Estep, assistant quartermaster, Second Kentucky Infantry, praying to be relieved from the loss of \$11,642 (stolen from his tent); which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Gartrell presented the memorial of assistant paymasters in the Navy, asking increased compensation: which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Goode, from the special committee on that subject, reported

A bill to authorize the impressment of meat for the use of the Army under certain circumstances;

which was postponed, placed upon the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Curry presented a communication from Capt. John McGuire, covering sundry claims for horses impressed by order of Generals Bragg and Wheeler; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday: which was the Senate bill (S. 144) to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session.

Mr. Machen moved that the consideration of the bill be postponed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones moved that the House recede from its amendment.

Mr. Gartrell called the question: which was ordered, and the motion of Mr. Jones prevailed.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by striking out the words "the first Monday in May" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Monday, the twenty-second February."

Mr. Jones called the question: which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 32
Nays ----- 44

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Clark, Conrad, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Gardenhire, Goode, Ingram, Jones, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miles, Miller,

Perkins, Preston, Read, Singleton, Staples, Tibbs, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Vest.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Hartridge called the question.

Mr. Hilton called the previous question.

The demand for the main question having been seconded, the bill was read a third time and passed.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Atkins moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to adjourn prevailed.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill entitled

S. 169. An act to repeal an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved 30th April, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 169) to repeal an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved 30th April, 1863; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Preston moved that the consideration of the special orders be postponed to enable the Committee on Foreign Affairs to make a report.

Mr. Gardenhire called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to postpone prevailed.

Mr. Preston, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported

A bill making additional appropriation of secret service money; which was read a first and second time.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering said bill, Mr. Russell in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had the subject under consideration and recommended that the bill do pass with an amendment.

Mr. Gardenhire called the previous question.

The main question having been seconded, the amendment of the committee was read and agreed to as follows, viz:

Strike out the words "one million five hundred thousand" and insert the words "five millions."

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring on the passage of the bill,

The yeas and nays required by the Constitution were recorded as follows, viz:

It was decided in the affirmative,	} Yeas..... 75 Nays..... 4
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Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Freeman, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of Georgia, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Clopton, Gaither, and Jones.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Curry moved to postpone the special orders, to enable him to introduce a joint resolution.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Curry introduced

A joint resolution in reference to the exchange of prisoners; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Curry moved to suspend the rule requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Russell submitted the following amendment:

Insert after the word "requested" the words "whenever he shall be satisfied that an equitable exchange of prisoners can be thereby effected."

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Kenan of Georgia,

Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-THIRD DAY—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Hume.

Mr. Dargan presented a communication from the clerks in the post-office at Mobile, Ala., asking increased compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Dargan offered the following resolution: which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the pay of the clerks of the post-office at Mobile, and also the pay of the postmaster, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Ingram introduced

A bill to continue in the Confederate States service during the war certain companies therein specified; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule requiring the call of the States for resolutions, memorials, etc., be suspended for the purpose of calling the committees.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Holder introduced

A bill to repeal the laws allowing commutation for forage, fuel, room rent, etc., not actually used or needed by officers of the Army, and for other purposes; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Vest introduced

A bill to declare certain persons citizens of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hanly introduced

A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States of America from the State of Arkansas; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Goode introduced

A bill to amend the acts to regulate impressments; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Simpson presented the memorial of the officers and men of the Fifth Regiment South Carolina State Troops, asking the privilege of organizing a battalion or regiment, to be composed of the men now in service in regiments of State troops; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Bondinot introduced

A bill for the relief of William P. Adair (accompanied by a memorial); which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred a bill of the Senate (S. 167) to amend an act to provide a mode of authenticating claims for money against the Confederate States not otherwise provided for, approved August 30, 1861, reported the same back, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the same committee, to which had also been referred a joint resolution of the Senate (S. 23) in relation to salaries of the judges of the district courts of the Confederate States for the State of Virginia, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the same,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Dargan called the previous question; which was seconded, and the joint resolution was read a third time.

The question recurring on its passage,

Mr. Heiskell demanded the yeas and nays.

Mr. Ewing moved to recommit the joint resolution to the committee, with instructions to report a bill increasing the salaries of the judges for a limited period.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the motion of Mr. Ewing by adding to the instructions the following: And that said committee inquire and report whether all of the district judges have been nominated to the Senate and confirmed according to the requirements of the Constitution.

The Chair ruled the amendment of Mr. Baldwin out of order.

Mr. Baldwin appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the appeal upon the table; which motion was agreed to.

The question recurring on agreeing to the motion of Mr. Ewing to recommit,

Mr. Gardenhire called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

The question recurring on the passage of the joint resolution,

Mr. Gardenhire called the question; which was ordered.

And the yeas and nays demanded by Mr. Heiskell were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	34
Nays	31 [32]

Yeas: Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Kenan of Georgia, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McRae, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Staples, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Crockett, Davidson, Ewing, Gaither, Hanly, Heiskell, Holder, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Munnerlyn, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Tibbs, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the joint resolution was passed.

Mr. Chambers introduced

A bill to authorize the President to establish additional military courts; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to punish theft, marauding, pillage, and robbery, when committed by persons belonging to the armies of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill and joint resolution of the following titles, viz:

S. 201. An act to increase the compensation of the Commissioner of Patents; and

S. 25. Joint resolution of thanks to the Tennessee troops who have reenlisted for the war;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have agreed to the amendment of this House to the bill (S. 159) to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such

Mr. Baldwin appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Wright of Texas moved that the appeal be laid upon the table; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Lyons, from the special committee on the pay of clerks, etc., reported back a Senate bill (S. 172) to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the Executive Departments at Richmond for a limited period, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendment of the committee was read and agreed to as follows, viz:

In line 4, after the word "Executive," insert the words "and legislative."

Mr. Crockett moved to amend by striking out the words "first of July," in the eighth line, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "fifteenth of May."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Crockett was agreed to.

The bill was then read a third time.

And the question being on its passage,

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Hilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	48
Nays	17

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Funsten, Gardenhire, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Trippe, Villere, and Wilcox.

Nays: Clopton, Collier, Foster, Gaither, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McLean, Miller, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Clark moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Funsten moved that the bill and amendments be recommitted to the special committee.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Crockett moved to amend by striking out the words "first of January," in line 7, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "from the passage of this act."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend by inserting, in the eighteenth line, after the word "employee," the words "in any Executive Department."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Crockett moved to amend by inserting before the word "one," in line 8, the words "at the rate of," and after the words "per cent" the words "per annum."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Johnston moved to amend by inserting, in the fifteenth line, before the word "fifty," the words "at the rate of," and after the words "per cent" the words "per annum."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen submitted the following amendment, to come in at the end of the bill:

Provided, That no clerk, who by virtue of a military commission receives rations or commutation of rations, shall be entitled to the provisions of this act.

The amendment was agreed to.

The question being on ordering the bill to a third reading,

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the title by inserting after the word "Executive" the words "and legislative."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Dupré moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Baldwin, by unanimous consent, presented the memorial of sundry farmers of Augusta County, Va., praying the passage of a law exempting those farmers who have been, during the year 1863, in good faith engaged in raising provisions more than sufficient for their own use; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a memorial from delegates in the Eleventh district of Virginia in regard to taxes; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 174) to authorize the issue of certain bonds for payment to the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company, of the State of Florida; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 159) to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary, to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi River; which had passed this House with amendments and been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments of the Senate were read and concurred in as follows, viz:

(1) Strike out, in line 3, the words "Assistant Treasurer" and insert "the agent of the Treasury Department."

(2) Strike out, in line 4, the words "Assistant Postmaster-General" and insert "agent of the Post-Office Department."

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 201) to increase the compensation of the Commissioner of Patents; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Patents.

Also, a Senate joint resolution (S. 25) of thanks to the Tennessee troops who have reenlisted for the war.

Mr. Miles moved that the rule be suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee.

The motion prevailed, and the joint resolution was read a third time and passed unanimously.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Foote,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which had been referred a Senate bill (S. 169) to repeal an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved 30th April, 1863, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed; which motion was lost.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the joint resolution in reference to the exchange of prisoners.

Mr. Perkins submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

Resolved, That while Congress sympathizes deeply in the sufferings of our soldiers confined in Northern prisons, and will cooperate cordially with the Executive in every way, either by the appropriation of money or by any legislation he may suggest for their relief, it approves of his refusal to recognize B. F. Butler as the agent of negotiation for their exchange.

Mr. Conrad submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

That Congress, fully sympathizing with and approving the feelings and motives which prompted the President to refuse to consent to any exchange of prisoners conducted on the part of the United States by General Benjamin F. Butler, are nevertheless of opinion, viewing the sufferings of our unfortunate soldiers who are prisoners of war, that it is expedient to resume the exchange of prisoners agreeably to the cartel heretofore agreed on, without regard to the character of the agent who may be selected for that purpose by the United States, and leaving to them the odium and disgrace of appointing a person unworthy of the trust.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the joint resolution and amendments be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Jones demanded the previous question.

The demand was not sustained.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Baldwin,

Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas 18
Nays 56

Yeas: Baldwin, Clark, Conrow, Crockett, Dupré, Elliott, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Gray, Heiskell, Holcombe, Lewis, McQueen, Miles, Perkins, Russell, Simpson, and Vest.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten,

place within the Confederate States in possession of the enemy, and to prohibit the sale, barter, or exchange of certain articles therein named, to alien or domestic enemies."

reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Garland, from the same committee, reported a bill of the same title, with the recommendation that it do pass; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Dargan, from the same committee, reported

A bill to amend an act to organize the military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts;

which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the same committee, to which had been referred

A resolution relative to the exchange of prisoners of the African race,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Foster moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill to amend the act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Gray, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which had been referred a bill to be entitled "An act supplemental to the several acts relating to military courts," and a bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Gray, from the same committee, reported

A bill to be entitled "An act supplemental to the several acts relating to military courts,"

with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was read a first and second time.

And the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Dupré moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to postpone the bill and place it on the Calendar.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the bill be laid upon the table and printed; which motion was agreed to

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A joint resolution of thanks to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for their defense of Charleston, S. C., reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the same,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Dargan, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following report:

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred a resolution requiring them to inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the act to establish the judicial courts of the Confederate States, approved 16th March, 1861, as authorizes the judge of each district to appoint the times and places of holding said courts in his district, have had the same under consideration and have instructed me to report that at present it is inexpedient to change the same.

The committee was discharged from the further consideration of the resolution, and the report was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chilton, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to which had been referred

A bill to authorize free white male citizens of the Confederate States, fourteen years of age and upwards, to carry the mails, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to establish certain post routes therein named; which was read a first and second time and laid upon the table.

Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred

A bill to be entitled "An act amendatory of the act entitled 'An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes,'" reported the same back, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the same committee, reported a bill of the same title, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill was read a first and second time.

And the question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion, the bill was ordered to be printed.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Clapp, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of this House of the following titles, viz:
H. R. 97. An act to authorize the President to assign judges of military courts from one court to another; and

H. R. 99. An act to authorize commanders of corps and departments to detail field officers as members of military courts under certain circumstances.

The Senate have rejected bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 85. An act to amend an act entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers;" and

H. R. 91. An act to fix the rank, pay, and allowances of adjutants of regiments and independent battalions.

On motion of Mr. Conrow, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Freeman.

Mr. Foote moved that the House adjourn.

Upon which Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The motion to adjourn was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the motion by striking out the words "half past."

Mr. Arrington moved to amend by striking out "half past 7" and inserting "10 o'clock to-morrow;" which latter motion was lost.

Mr. McRae moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

The motion of Mr. Lyons was lost.

Mr. Boteler moved that the House adjourn.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to adjourn was lost.

The motion of Mr. Hilton prevailed, and

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

And having reassembled,

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which is as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 26, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of an additional report of military operations during the last year.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a joint resolution and bills of the following titles:

S. 20. Joint resolution of thanks to Major Von Boreke;

S. 190. An act to regulate the collection of the tax in kind upon tobacco, and to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863; and

S. 196. An act to extend the provisions of an act entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers," approved May 1, 1863.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Gardenhire, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title:

S. 172. An act to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the executive and legislative departments at Richmond for a limited period.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session, and

On motion of Mr. Atkins.

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with an amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 93. An act to organize a Treasury note bureau;

In which amendment I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have concurred in the amendment of this House to the bill (S. 183) to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Ralls called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of the committee, which is as follows, viz:

Add as section 2 the following, viz:

"SEC. 2. Any vessel bringing to the Confederate States a cargo composed wholly of articles, the importation of which is allowed by law, and of freight transported for the Government of the Confederate States, shall be permitted to take a return cargo, composed of the articles mentioned in the preceding section, or any of them, and of freight for the Government of the Confederate States. The President shall prescribe uniform regulations as to the amount of Government freight to be transported by incoming and outgoing vessels, which shall not in any case be required to exceed one-half the ordinary tonnage of the vessel, and he shall also, from time to time, establish such uniform rates of freight to be paid by the Government as will afford a fair remuneration for the service to be performed. No other restrictions shall be placed upon such vessels except such as are established by law, and such as may be necessary to insure good faith in the exercise of the privilege herein granted."

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 24
Nays ----- 42

Yeas: Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Gartrell, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Machen, Martin, Miles, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Tibbs.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McDowell, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Hartridge moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.
Upon which Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 27
 { Nays:----- 37

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Hartridge, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McDowell, Menees, Miles, Simpson, and Tibbs.

Nays: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Ewing, Foster, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Conrad submitted the following amendment:

In section 1, line 5, after the word "except," insert the words "on such conditions and."

Mr. Machen called the previous question; which was seconded.

The amendment of Mr. Conrad was lost.

The bill was read a third time.

And the question recurring on its passage,

Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 61
 { Nays ----- 11

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Boyce, Curry, Dupré, Foote, Garland, Garnett, Ingram, Jones, Martin, and Miles.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Sexton stated that his colleague, Mr. Graham, had he been present, would have voted for the bill.

Mr. Jones moved to strike out the preamble of the bill; which is as follows, viz:

Whereas the Confederate States are engaged in a war, upon the successful issue of which depend the integrity of their social system, the form of their civilization, the security of life and property within their limits, as well as their existence as sovereign and independent States; and

Whereas the condition of the contest demands that they should call into requisition whatever resources of men and money they have for the support of their cause: Therefore, as a part of the system of the public defense.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the preamble by striking out the words "men and money."

The amendment was lost, and the preamble was agreed to.

The title was also agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

The motion was lost.

The Speaker announced the appointment of the select committee on the joint resolution in reference to the exchange of prisoners as follows, viz:

Messrs. Curry of Alabama, Lyons of Virginia, Perkins of Louisiana, Garland of Arkansas, and Machen of Kentucky.

Mr. Gartrell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Senate be requested to direct its Secretary to furnish this House a copy of an engrossed Senate resolution (the original having been lost) explanatory of a joint resolution on the subject of retaliation, approved May first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

And the House, on motion of Mr. Hilton, resolved itself into open session.

The House having taken a recess until half past 7 o'clock, and having reassembled at that hour, and being again in secret session,

Mr. Miles moved that the consideration of the first special order, which was the bill to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863, be postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved that the consideration of the next special order, which was the bill to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May 1, 1863, be also postponed.

The motion was agreed to.

The House then took up for consideration the next special order; which was the bill of the Senate (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

Mr. Chilton moved to amend the first section of the bill by striking out the word "fifty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "forty-five."

Mr. Dupré moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Chilton by striking out the word "forty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "fifty."

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Dupré was lost.

Mr. Pugh moved that the bill and amendments be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to refer prevailed.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill and amendments were referred.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Pugh to refer the bill, It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Chilton,

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Barksdale moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas [and nays] on his amendment:
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 51
 } Nays----- 16

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Chambliss, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Heiskell, Holcombe, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, McRae, Perkins, Pugh, Singleton, Tibbs, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Curry moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. McRae moved to amend the first section of the bill by adding at the end thereof the words "in the field."

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Johnston moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion was lost.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. McRae,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

Mr. Sexton moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion was lost.

The yeas and nays were recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 46
 } Nays----- 17

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McLean, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Bridgers, Clapp, Davidson, Farrow, Johnston, Jones, Lyons, McDowell, McQueen, Miles, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Trippe, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the first section as amended by adding at the end the words "except such persons as are hereafter named."

Pending which,

The Chair laid before the House a joint resolution [bill] of this House to organize a Treasury note bureau (H. R. 93); which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule be suspended requiring the joint resolution [bill] and amendment to be referred to a committee.

The motion was agreed to.

The amendment of the Senate was read and concurred in as follows, viz:

Strike out, in section 3, line 7, the figures "\$2,500" and insert the words "twenty-five hundred dollars per annum, payable quarterly."

And the House,
On motion of Mr. Atkins,
Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-FIFTH DAY—FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Ryland.

On motion, leave of absence was granted to Mr. Read.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Collier (called home by the illness of his father).

On motion of Mr. Ashe, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. McDowell.

Mr. Barksdale offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the fundamental principle of our Government is, that it derives its rightful powers from the consent of the governed, and that its legislative department is essentially the agent by which the will of the people is expressed, and is responsible to them for all its acts

Resolved, That the practice of holding secret sessions, by which such responsibility is in a measure destroyed, is an encroachment on this principle, to be tolerated only upon grounds of extreme public necessity.

And be it therefore further resolved, That all measures designed to increase the strength and efficiency of our Army, and to perfect its organization, having no reference whatever to plans of campaigns or military operations in the field, but having a practical connection with the vital interests of the country, should be discussed, matured, and passed in open session, to prevent abuses and to check misgovernment.

Mr. Jones moved to lay the resolutions on the table.

Upon which motion Mr. Barksdale demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was not sustained, and the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina presented the memorial of detailed men in the Clothing Bureau, asking increased compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina introduced

A bill giving increased compensation to noncommissioned officers and privates in the Army;
which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to suspend the rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 56
 { Nays----- 15

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clark, Clopton, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garnett, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Boyce, Conrad, Crockett, Dupré, Gardenhire, Garland, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Ralls, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the rule was suspended.

Mr. Chambliss moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to refer prevailed.

Mr. Gray moved that his motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill of the Senate (S. 144) changing the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session was passed be taken up for consideration, and called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 30
 } Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Chambliss, Clark, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Gardenhire, Goode, Gray, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Lander, Machen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Tibbs, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Crockett, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McQueen, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Medical Department be instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the value of the ration now allowed by law for sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals.

Mr. Ashe presented the memorial of sundry citizens of North Carolina, asking a modification of the exemption law so as to exempt manufacturers of tableware, etc.: which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Boyce offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to inform this House whether any officers of the Regular or Provisional Army, or of the Navy, or in the civil service, appointed during the existence of the Provisional Government and confirmed by the Provisional Congress, are now holding office without having been renominated and confirmed by the Senate under the Permanent Constitution; and if so, the names of said officers.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays thereon:

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 50
 } Nays ----- 20

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Foster, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambliss, Clopton, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Funsten, Gaither, Heiskell, Miles, Simpson, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Miles introduced

A bill to provide uniform rates of compensation for mechanics and laborers employed by the various Executive Departments of the Government;

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill to establish a department of inspection and censorship; which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed on the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Heiskell offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause this House to be informed whether the report of the operations of the forces under the command of General John S. Williams at Blue Springs, Henderson, and Rheatown, Tennessee, is in the office of the Adjutant-General; and if not, that he have such steps taken as may secure the forwarding of the report.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to bring in a bill doubling the pay of our soldiers in the field.

Mr. Garland moved to amend the resolution by adding the following:

and to inquire into the expediency of paying the soldiers in the service in gold and silver for the next six months, and report by bill or otherwise.

The amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the resolution of Mr. Foote, as amended,

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the resolution was not agreed to.

Mr. Foote offered the following resolution; which lies over two days under the rule:

Resolved, That all legislative business in this House will be hereafter considered in open session, except such as relates to the movements of our armies and diplomatic concerns, and that no secret session shall hereafter occur except upon a vote of two-thirds of the members present in favor thereof.

Mr. Foote also offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the communications from the Army herewith presented be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs for their consideration and for such action in regard to the matters therein alluded to as they may judge expedient.

The resolution was disagreed to.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution; which was agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the President be respectfully requested to communicate to this House all the orders, correspondence, and other papers relating to the trial and conviction of William E. Coffman by a military court under orders from Brigadier-General Imboden, and also relating to a writ of habeas corpus issued from the circuit court of Rockingham County, Virginia, to prevent the execution of said Coffman.

Mr. Singleton presented the memorial of sundry citizens of Mississippi, asking an appropriation of \$100, which should have been paid as bounty to John F. Yewell and George R. Mahoney; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Arrington offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the bill to increase the pay of soldiers one hundred per cent, be instructed to inquire into the expediency or propriety of increasing the same to thirty dollars per month,

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 51
 { Nays----- 8

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Read, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Dupré, Jones, Lewis, Miles, Ralls, Tibbs, Trippe, and Wright of Texas.

So the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons presented the memorial of citizens of Richmond and others, asking the exemption of dental surgeons; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Curry presented the memorial of A. C. Baker, with evidence, asking pay for horse impressed; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Gartrell presented the memorial of members of Phillips Legion of Cavalry (Georgia), asking that they be allowed the privilege of a reorganization of their battalion at the expiration of their term of service; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Heiskell presented the memorial of H. M. Watterson, asserting a claim; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. De Jarnette presented the memorial of Capt. W. H. Brown, asking compensation for a slave lost in the public service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the rules be suspended to take up for consideration the bill amendatory of an act entitled "An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes."

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the bill to create an invalid corps was taken from the table and postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Clopton introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Alabama troops who have reenlisted for the war:

which was read first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Curry, the rule was suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee, and it was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Gardenhire, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 51. A bill to fix the pay and allowances of the master armorer of the Confederate States Armory at Richmond, Va.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Dargan, from the Special Committee on the Foreign Cotton Loan, reported

A bill to authorize the issue of certain cotton certificates; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Conrad moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to make a personal explanation.

The motion was agreed to.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

The question being put,

Shall the bill pass?

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill of the Senate (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

The amendment of Mr. Barksdale, which had been modified so as to read as follows, viz:

Add at the end of section 1 as amended the words "except persons engaged in the avocations hereafter mentioned,"

was agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss moved to amend the second section by striking out, in line 2, the word "five."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out the second section; which is as follows:

"Sec. 2. That all persons between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five, not now in the Army, shall enroll themselves within such time and at such place or places in their respective counties or parishes as may be prescribed by the President, and upon their failure to do so, the persons so failing shall be conscribed into the army in the field, and all details for provost guards, for commissary, quartermaster's, and Niter Bureau agents, clerks, and guards, and for service in enforcing the conscript acts, and for other purposes, except as hereinafter provided, shall be taken from those persons who are between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five, not now in the Army, and from those below the age of forty-five who are unfit for military service in the field by reason of physical disability, within thirty days from the passage of this act: *Provided*, That in the Trans-Mississippi Department the time for the enrollment aforesaid shall be sixty days: *Provided further*, That all the persons herein named between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five shall only be placed in the service to act as details as herein provided,"

and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

"Sec. 2. All details for provost and hospital guards and for service in the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments and Niter Bureau, their clerks and guards, and for service in enforcing the conscript acts, and for all other purposes, except as hereinafter provided, shall be made from persons unfit for service in the field by reason of physical disability from wounds or disease and have been retired from active service in the field, but who may be capable of performing these duties, and from those not liable to service in the Army of the Confederate States by the exist-

In line 2, after the word "themselves," insert the words "as reserves in the military service of the Confederate States for the war."

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. McRae was agreed to.

Mr. McRae also submitted the following amendment to the second section:

In line 11, after the word "Army," insert the words "and those now in the Army, over the age of forty-five, after the expiration of their present term of service."

Mr. Funsten moved to amend the amendment of Mr. McRae by adding at the end the following:

Provided, That such details shall only be made when there is not a sufficient number of disabled soldiers for such duty, and then only so far as is necessary to supply such deficiency.

The amendment of Mr. Funsten was agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. McRae, as amended, was lost.

Mr. Singleton submitted the following amendment to the second section:

Add at the end the following: "*Provided further*, That no person between the ages of forty-five and fifty years, who is in good faith actually engaged in any mechanical or agricultural pursuit, shall be liable to such conscription."

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Singleton was agreed to.

Mr. Holcombe moved to amend the second section by striking out, in line 7, the words "and Niter Bureau."

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Holcombe was agreed to.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Singleton was agreed to.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Atkins submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Singleton (as a substitute therefor):

Provided further, That no person between the ages of forty-five and fifty years who is now and has been since the sixteenth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in good faith actually engaged in any mechanical pursuit, or any person between the ages of forty-five and fifty years who is now employing his labor, capital, or skill in the production of grain, forage, and provisions and is the sole male manager of his farm or plantation.

Mr. Chambliss moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Singleton and the amendment to the amendment on the table.

Upon which motion Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas.....	29
Nays	36

Yeas: Barksdale, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McRae, Miller, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Clopton, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garnett, Hanly, Heiskell, Holcombe, Holder, Johnston, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Wilcox moved that the House resolve itself into open session.
The motion was lost.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Atkins was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Singleton, as amended,

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Chambliss demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 31
 } Nays 32

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boyce, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Farrow, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garnett, Hanly, Heiskell, Holder, Jones, Lyon, Martin, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Barksdale, Boteler, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Miller, Simpson, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Wilcox moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs, and called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Machen moved that the House resolve itself into open session.
The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays on the motion to refer the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 30
 } Nays 35

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Clopton, Ewing, Gardenhire, Garnett, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Lyons, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Heiskell, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McRae, Miller, Russell, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Foster moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Singleton, as amended, was lost.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Gaither demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:^a

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Singleton, as amended,
Mr. Gaither demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

^aThe yeas and nays are not recorded in the Journal.

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 36
 } Nays ----- 24

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Chambers, Clopton, Davidson, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garnett, Hanly, Heiskell, Holcombe, Holder, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Barksdale, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment as amended was agreed to.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Barksdale,

Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-SIXTH DAY—SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Ryland.

The House resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was a bill, reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, amendatory of an act entitled "An act to put an end to the exemption from military service of those who have heretofore furnished substitutes."

Mr. Ralls moved to amend the first section of the bill by adding, in the third line, after "eighteen hundred and sixty-three," the words "and who are now so engaged."

Mr. Baldwin offered the following as a substitute for the amendment of Mr. Ralls:

Strike out, in line 3, section 1, the words "in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-three" and insert in lieu thereof the words "on the fifth of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-four."

Mr. Bridgers demanded the previous question; which was not ordered.

The question recurring on Mr. Baldwin's amendment,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 35
 } Nays ----- 27

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, McQueen, Miles, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, and Villeré.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Farrow, Gardenhire, Gartrell, Hartridge, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Strickland, Tibbs, Vest, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Ralls, as amended, Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 33
 } Nays 31

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Clark, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Garnett, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, McQueen, Miles, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Trippe, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gartrell, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Strickland, Tibbs, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Dupré moved to amend the first section by striking out, in line 4, the word "either" and, in lines 4 and 5, the words "or in superintending the labor of others," and inserting the following, to come in after the word "labor," in the fourth line: "or who are exempted under the act entitled 'An act to repeal certain clauses of an act entitled "An act to exempt certain persons from military service," approved first May, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."'

Mr. Conrad moved to postpone the bill indefinitely.

Mr. Hartridge called the question: which was not sustained.

Mr. Holcombe demanded the yeas and nays upon the motion to postpone;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 29
 } Nays 41

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Chambliss, Chrisman, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, McRae, Menees, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Tibbs, Vest, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garnett, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

So the motion did not prevail.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Dupré,

Mr. Jones called the question: which was ordered, and the amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell offered the following amendment: which was adopted, viz:

In paragraph 3, line 18, after the word "families," insert the words "or for the use of the Army."

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays: which were not ordered.

The main question was ordered.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Swan moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to be engrossed.

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Chambliss, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Hanly, Holder, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, Welsh, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Barksdale, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dupré, Foote, Garnett, Goode, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Jones, Machen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Swan moved that the House adjourn; which motion was not agreed to.

Mr. Funsten offered the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

A bill to be entitled "An act to provide for an invalid corps."

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That all officers, noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, and seamen, who have or shall become disabled by wounds or other injuries received, or disease contracted in the service of the Confederate States and in the line of duty, shall be retired or discharged from their respective positions as hereinafter provided. But the rank, pay, and emoluments of such officers, and the pay and emoluments of such noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, and seamen, shall continue to the end of the war, or as long as they shall continue so retired or discharged.

SEC. 2. That all persons claiming the benefits of this act shall present themselves for examination to one of the medical examining boards now established by law. Upon the certificate of such board that such permanent disability exists, such persons shall be retired or discharged, as aforesaid.

SEC. 3. That all persons retired or discharged, as aforesaid, shall, periodically, and at least once in six months, present themselves to one of said boards for further examination, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of War, the result of which examination shall be reported by such board to the Secretary of War. And if any such person shall fail so to report himself to such board, whenever he shall be required so to do, he shall be dropped from said retired or discharged list, and become liable to conscription under the terms of the law, unless such failure shall be caused by physical disability.

SEC. 4. That the Secretary of War may assign such officers and order the detail of such noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, and seamen for such duty as they shall be qualified to perform. If any such noncommissioned officers, musicians, privates, and seamen shall be relieved from disability they shall be restored to duty.

SEC. 5. That the Secretary of War shall make all needful rules and regulations for the action of the medical boards, as aforesaid.

SEC. 6. That vacancies caused by the retirement of officers under this act shall be filled as in case of the death or resignation of such officers.

SEC. 7. This act shall be in force from its passage.

Mr. Preston demanded the yeas and nays: which were not ordered. The amendment was then adopted.

The bill as amended was then engrossed, read third time, and passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Atkins,

The House then adjourned until 11 o'clock a. m. on Monday.

FORTY-SEVENTH DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., January 30, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate of an additional sum needed by the Engineer Bureau.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution: which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Speaker be requested to invite General Pillow to a seat within the bar of this House.

Mr. Russell moved that the rule be suspended requiring the call of the States for memorials, resolutions, etc.: which motion was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Clark, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Trippe.

On motion of Mr. Staples, leave of absence was granted his colleague, Mr. Garnett (detained from his seat by indisposition).

Mr. Chambliss moved that the rules be suspended to enable the Committee on Naval Affairs to make a report.

The motion was lost.

The House then resumed the consideration of unfinished business and took up the bill to allow commissioned officers of the Army rations and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department.

Mr. Machen submitted the following amendment:

Add at the end of section 2 the following: "*Provided*, That the officer offering to purchase shall give his certificate on honor that the articles are necessary for his own personal comfort and use, and in no case shall more than one suit per annum be allowed to be so purchased by any officer."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment to the second section, to be added at the end:

Provided, That nothing contained in this section shall be construed as depriving commissioned officers of the privilege they now enjoy of purchasing subsistence stores from the Commissary Department.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miles by adding thereto the following, viz:

Provided, That this privilege of purchase shall only apply to officers in actual service in the field.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question.

The demand was sustained.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Curry,

Mr. Arrington demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 25
 } Nays ----- 43

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Curry, Dargan, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McLean, Pugh, Smith of Alabama, Trippe, Welsh, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Conrad, Crockett, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Funsten, Gardenhire, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Staples, Swan, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment of Mr. Curry was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Miles,

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being on its passage.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed.

The title of the bill was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

The motion was lost.

The House then took up the bill to increase the efficiency of the Army by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain capacities.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin,

Mr. Atkins called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Baldwin was lost.

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved to amend the bill by striking out the first section; which is as follows, viz:

That all male free negroes resident in the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and fifty-five years, shall be held liable to perform such duties with the Army, or in connection with the military defenses of the country, in the way of work upon fortifications, or in Government works for the production or preparation of material of war, or in military hospitals, as the Secretary of War may from time to time prescribe; and while engaged in the performance of such duties shall receive rations and clothing and compensation at the rate of eleven dollars a month, under such rules and regulations as the said Secretary may establish: *Provided*, That the Secretary of War, with the approval of the President, may exempt from the operations of this act such free negroes as the interests of the country may require should be exempted, or such as he may think proper to exempt on grounds of justice, equity, or necessity.

Mr. Clark called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Smith of Alabama was lost.

Mr. Machen moved to amend section 2 by striking out, in line 4, the words "not to exceed."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Miles moved to amend by filling the blank with the words "twenty thousand."

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the amendment by striking out "twenty thousand" and inserting "forty thousand."

Mr. Goode called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Dargan was lost, and the amendment of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment:

In section 2, line 12, strike out the words "incurred in consequence of the discharge of" and insert in lieu thereof the words "contracted while in."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Ralls moved to amend by striking out the words "or by disease contracted while in any service required of said slaves, then the owners of the same shall be entitled to receive the full value of such slaves."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Ralls was lost.

Mr. Gray moved to amend section 2 by inserting, in line 14, after the word "slaves," the words "to be ascertained by agreement, or by appraisement under the laws regulating impressments, and."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Gray was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the third section of the bill by [inserting], in line 6, after the word "slaves," the words "not to exceed twenty thousand;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the third section by striking out, in lines 8 and 9, the words "under such rules and regulations as the said Secretary may establish" and inserting the words "according to the laws regulating impressments of slaves in other cases."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin also submitted the following amendment:

In section 3, lines 13 and 14, strike out the words "and regulations as those who may have been hired" and insert the words "established by the said impressment laws;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of third section the following: "*Provided*, That if the owner have but one male slave within the ages of eighteen and fifty he shall not be impressed against the will of the owner;"

which was agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale submitted the following amendment as an independent section:

SEC. 4. Impressments of slaves shall, as far as practicable, be made in counties or districts the productions of which are least available for use of the Army, or remote from facilities for transportation, and shall be apportioned as nearly as practicable among the owners, according to numbers of laboring hands.

Mr. Dupré moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Barksdale by adding at the end thereof the following:

Provided, That no slave laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain and provisions, and not exceeding ten hands to each farm, shall be impressed without the consent of the owner.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Dupré was agreed to.

Mr. Ashe submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Barksdale (as a substitute therefor):

That the slaves required to be impressed shall be apportioned pro rata among the several States and the several owners in each State as far as practicable.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Ashe was lost.

Mr. Goode moved to amend the bill by striking out the third section as amended; which reads as follows, viz:

That when the Secretary of War shall be unable to procure the services of slaves in any military department in sufficient numbers for the necessities of the department upon the terms and conditions set forth in the preceding section, then he is hereby authorized to impress the services of as many male slaves, not to exceed twenty thousand, as may be required from time to time to discharge the duties indicated in the first section of this act, according to laws regulating impressments of slaves in other cases: *Provided*, That slaves so impressed shall, while employed, receive the same rations and clothing in kind and quantity as slaves regularly hired from their owners, and in the event of their loss, shall be paid for in the same manner and under the same rules established by the said impressment laws.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Goode was lost.

Mr. Welsh moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Barksdale as follows, viz:

Strike out all of said amendment and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz: "*Provided further*, That in making the impressments, not more than one of every five male slaves between the ages of eighteen and forty-five shall be taken from any owner."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the amendment of Mr. Welsh was agreed to, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 35
 { Nays----- 34

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Conrad, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gartrell, Goode, Heiskell, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Menees, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Clapp, Clark, Davidson, Foote, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Lander, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McKee, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Tibbs, Trippe, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Georgia, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Dupré was agreed to.

Mr. Foote called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed, and the amendment of Mr. Dupré was lost.

Mr. Welsh moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Barksdale by adding the following, viz:

Provided further, That in making the impressments, not more than one of every five male slaves between the ages of eighteen and forty-five shall be taken from any owner.

The amendment was agreed to, and the amendment of Mr. Barksdale, as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the fourth section by adding at the end thereof the following:

Provided, That no slaves shall be impressed in one State to labor on fortifications in another.

Mr. Swan demanded the previous question; which was not seconded.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Hilton was lost.

Mr. Gardenhire submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of last section the following: "*Provided further*, That free negroes shall be first impressed, and if there should be a deficiency it shall be supplied by the impressment of slaves according to the foregoing provisions;"

which was agreed to.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the fourth section by adding the following:

Provided, That the slaves of the First and Third Congressional districts of Alabama be exempted from the provisions of this act.

Mr. Wilcox moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Foster by adding the following:

Provided, That they be exempted from taxation and representation during the war.

Mr. Gray moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Foster and the amendment to the amendment on the table; which motion was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Anderson; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate has passed joint resolutions of the following titles, viz:

S. 19. Joint resolution for the relief of Capt. Walker Anderson;

S. 27. Joint resolution of thanks to North Carolina troops; and

S. 28. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops from the State of Louisiana in the Army of Tennessee;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the first section of the bill by inserting after the word "negroes" the words "and other free persons of color."

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miles by adding thereto the words "not including those who are free under the treaty of Paris of eighteen hundred and three, or under the treaty with Spain of eighteen hundred and nineteen."

The amendment of Mr. Dargan was agreed to.

The amendment of Mr. Miles, as amended, was also agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed.

The title of the bill was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

The motion was lost.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 28) of thanks to the troops from the State of Louisiana in the Army of Tennessee; which was read a first and second time, and

On motion of Mr. Dupré, the rule requiring the same to be referred to a committee having been suspended, the joint resolution was read a third time and passed unanimously.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 19) for the relief of Capt. Walker Anderson; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, a Senate joint resolution (S. 27) of thanks to North Carolina troops; which was read a first and second time, and

On motion of Mr. Gaither, the rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, it was read a third time and passed unanimously.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 144. A bill to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session; and

S. 25. Joint resolution of thanks to the Tennessee troops who have reenlisted for the war.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the President; which is as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 30th ultimo the President approved and signed the following act:

H. R. 51. An act entitled "An act to fix the pay and allowances of the master armorer of the Confederate States Armory at Richmond, Virginia."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, February 1, 1864.

Mr. Wilcox moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost, and

The House, on motion of Mr. Bridgers, took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

And having reassembled,

On motion of Mr. Miles, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, and being again in open session,

On motion of Mr. Ralls,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 30, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 21st instant, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, showing the present state of the question pending between the two Governments of the Confederate States and the United States relative to the exchange of prisoners.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were referred to the Special Committee on the Joint Resolution in Reference to the Exchange of Prisoners.

The Chair also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *January 29, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration in secret session a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, to which I invite your special attention.

I recommend an appropriation of the sum specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Mr. Gardenhire, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles:

H. R. 93. An act to organize a Treasury note bureau; and

H. R. 97. An act to authorize the President to assign judges of military courts from one court to another.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the Senate bill (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

Mr. McRae submitted the following amendment:

In section 2, line 7, after the word "for," insert the words "commissaries and quartermasters of posts and all."

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. McRae demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 24
Nays----- 43

Yeas: Barksdale, Breckinridge, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Conrow, Ewing, Foster, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, McLean, McRae, Perkins, Ralls, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Gardenhire, Graham, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Conrad submitted the following amendment:

In section 2, line 4, after the word "for," strike out the words "commissary and quartermaster agents, clerks, and guards, and for service in enforcing the conscript acts," and insert in lieu thereof the words "service in the Commissary, Quartermaster's, Medical, and Ordnance Departments for clerks and guards, and in executing the enrollment acts."

Mr. Ralls called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Conrad was agreed to.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment:

In section 2, line 13, after the word "disability," insert the words "but who may be declared by a medical examining board capable of discharging the duties to which they may be assigned under this section."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Funsten submitted the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

In line 14, after the word "act," insert the words "*Provided*, That such details shall only be made when there is not a sufficient number of disabled soldiers qualified for such duty, and then only so far as may be necessary to supply such deficiency."

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the second section by striking out, in lines 13 and 14, the words "within thirty days after the passage of this act."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad submitted the following amendment:

Add to the amendment of Mr. Miles, in line 13, after the word "disability," the words "unless in any case the detail of those now in the service be expressly authorized by special order of the Secretary of War or of the commander of the district in which such detail is made."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the second section by adding at the end thereof the following:

And provided further, That the persons herein named, between the ages of forty-five and fifty, shall not be placed in the military service of the Confederate States out of the States in which they reside, unless these States are beyond our military lines; and whenever such persons are now or may be organized into companies, battalions, or regiments previous to the time prescribed for enrollment, they shall, if they desire it, be accepted in their organizations.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Sexton was lost.

Mr. Menees moved to reconsider the vote by which the House rejected the amendment of Mr. Conrad to the second section, to come in after the amendment of Mr. Miles, in line 13.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Conrad,

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the second section by striking out, in line 1, the word "persons" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "white male residents in the Confederate States."

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Russell by striking out the word "residents" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "citizens," and called the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Russell,

It was decided in the affirmative.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Russell,

Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-EIGHTH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the bill to establish certain post routes therein named, which had been reported from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads and laid upon the table, was taken up for consideration.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was also agreed to.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, reported

A joint resolution for the relief of Wellington Goddin; which was read a first and second time.

Pending which,

The House, on motion of Mr. Swan, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, and being again in open session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and joint resolution of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 94. An act to provide for wounded and disabled officers, soldiers, and seamen an asylum, to be called "The Veteran Soldiers' Home;" and

H. R. 24. Joint resolution of thanks to the Alabama troops who have reenlisted for the war.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that on the 30th ultimo he approved and signed the following joint resolutions and acts:

S. 20. Joint resolution of thanks to Major Von Boreke;

S. 23. Joint resolution in relation to the salaries of the judges of the district courts of the Confederate States for the State of Virginia;

S. 167. An act to amend an act to provide a mode of authenticating claims for money against the Confederate States not otherwise provided for, approved August 30, 1861;

S. 172. An act to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the executive and legislative departments at Richmond for a limited period;

S. 190. An act to regulate the collection of the tax in kind upon tobacco, and to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863; and

S. 196. An act to extend the provisions of an act entitled "An act in relation to the receipt of counterfeit Treasury notes by public officers," approved May 1, 1863.

Mr. Dupré moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost, and

The House, on motion of Mr. Hilton, took a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Having reassembled,

Mr. Miles moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

No quorum voting.

Mr. Hilton moved a call of the House; which was ordered.

Upon a call of the roll the following gentlemen answered to their names:

Messrs. Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

The following gentlemen were excused or found absent by leave of the House:

Messrs. Ashe, Ayer, Bell, Chambliss, Collier, Currin, Freeman, Funsten, Garnett, Harris, Hodge, Kenan of Georgia, Lyon, McDowell, Preston, Read, Trippe, and Wright of Tennessee.

Messrs. Gardenhire and Tibbs were excused and granted leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

The following gentlemen were found absent without being excused:

Messrs. Batson, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chrisman, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Davidson, Elliott, Foote, Foster, Gartrell, Gentry, Gray, Herbert, Holcombe, Kenner, Lyons, Marshall, Martin, McLean, Moore, Royston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Vest, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. McRae moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to excuse Mr. Graham.

The motion to reconsider prevailed, and Mr. Graham was excused.

Mr. McRae moved that the names of the members absent without excuse be published in the morning papers, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Machen, all further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

Mr. Jones moved that the House adjourn.

Upon which Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 21
Nays----- 39

Days	39
------	----

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Barksdale, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Crockett, Dargan, Dupré, Farrow, Gartrell, Hanly, Jones, Lyon, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Pugh, Simpson, Staples, Swan, and Wilcox.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Clapp, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, John-

ston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the motion to adjourn was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, joint resolutions of this House of the following titles:

H. R. 8. Joint resolution of thanks to Col. Thomas G. Lamar and the officers and men engaged in the defense of Secessionville;

H. R. 19. Joint resolution of thanks to Captain Odium, Lieutenant Dowling, and the men under their command; and

H. R. 23. Joint resolution of thanks to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for their defense of Charleston, S. C.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Machen, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session, and

On motion of Mr. Swan,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Barksdale moved that the House resolve itself into open session for the purpose of considering the special order; which was the bill of the Senate (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

The House having resumed the consideration of the special order.

Mr. Chilton submitted the following amendment to the bill:

Strike out the whole of section 2 as amended and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

"All duties as provost and hospital guards and clerks, and as clerks, guards, and assistants, employees, and laborers in the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, in the Ordnance, Medical, and Niter and Mining Bureaus, and in the execution of the enrollment acts, and all similar duties, shall hereafter be performed by persons who have been disabled from active service in the field, and who, by a board of surgeons, shall have been reported fit for these duties; and when these shall have been exhausted, the President shall call upon the governors of the several States for the quotas of persons requisite to make up the number needed for the performance of the above-mentioned duties, which quotas shall be taken from persons not liable to military service in the Army of the Confederate States."

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Chilton as follows: Strike out the whole thereof and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SEC. 2. That the President be authorized to accept the services of all persons between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five years not now in the Army, and that the persons so tendering their services shall be enrolled within such time and at such places in their respective counties or parishes as may be prescribed by the President; and that all persons enrolled under the provisions of this act shall be detailed for provost or hospital guards for service in the Quartermaster's, Commissary, Medical, and Ordnance Departments, clerks and guards, and in executing the enrollment acts, and for all other purposes, except as are hereinafter provided, shall be taken from those persons who are between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five years not now in the Army.

And the question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Barksdale to the amendment of Mr. Chilton to the second section (as a substitute therefor),

Mr. Clapp called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Barksdale was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Chilton.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, to wit:	{ Yeas	50
	{ Nays	19

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridges, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clifton, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Launder, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Crockett, Dupré, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Johnston, Lewis, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Staples, Tibbs, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the third section of the bill by striking out, in line 8, the words "under this act" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "but he shall at the expiration of three years from the sixteenth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, pay into the Treasury five hundred dollars per annum during the war."

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Foster was lost.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the third section by inserting, in line 5, after the word "thereof," the words "unless they shall satisfactorily show that they have in actual service in the field substitutes not liable to conscription under this act, and who by virtue of their contract are to continue in the military service during the war."

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 169. An act to repeal an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved 30th April, 1863; and

S. 183. An act to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Clapp submitted the following amendment:

Strike out first three sections of the bill and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That from and after the passage of this act all white male residents of the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, shall be in the military service of the Confederate States for the war; and no person shall be relieved from the operation of this law, by reason of having been heretofore discharged, where disability does not now exist; nor shall those who have furnished substitutes be any longer exempted by reason thereof: *Provided*, That no person who has heretofore been exempted on account of religious opinions, and who has paid the tax levied to relieve him from that service, shall be conscribed under this act.

"SEC. 2. All white male residents of the Confederate States, between the ages of forty-five and fifty, not now in the Army, shall be liable to be placed in the military service of the Confederate States for the purposes and in the manner hereinafter mentioned, and shall enroll themselves within such time and at such place or places and before such persons in their respective counties or parishes as may be prescribed by the President, and upon their failure to do so, unless prevented by unavoidable circumstances, to be judged of by the President, shall be conscribed into the Army in the field.

"SEC. 3. The President shall, as soon as practicable after the passage of this act, cause to be ascertained the number of persons necessary in each State for provost and hospital guards and employees; for commissary, quartermaster, and Niter Bureau agents, clerks, guards, and laborers; for garrison and post duty, and for all other military purposes except for field service; and after assigning or detailing for such duties all such persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five as are competent to perform the same, and who, by reason of physical disability or other causes, are unfit for military service in the field, the deficiency that may exist in any State shall be supplied from the persons herein named, between the ages of forty-five and fifty, who are residents of such State, either by volunteering upon the call of the President, or by a requisition upon the governor of such State, or by a draft, to be regulated in its details by the President, and equitably apportioned, according to the number in the several counties and parishes of such State, between such ages as the President may in his discretion deem any one of said modes the most appropriate or required by the public exigencies: *Provided*, That the persons between the ages of forty-five and fifty shall only be placed in the service for the purposes aforementioned, and shall not be compelled to leave the State in which they are residents, except upon occasions of great emergency, and for a period not exceeding thirty days at any one time.

"SEC. 4. Any quartermaster or assistant quartermaster, commissary or assistant commissary (other than those serving with brigades or regiments in the field), or officer in the Niter Bureau, provost-marshal, or enrolling officer who shall employ any person between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, who is liable to military duty in the field, as a clerk, agent, or in any other way, shall, upon conviction thereof by a court-martial or military court, be cashiered; and it shall be the duty of any department or district commander, upon proof, by the oath of any creditable person, that any quartermaster or assistant quartermaster, commissary or assistant commissary, or officer in the Niter Bureau, provost-marshal, or enrolling officer has violated this law, immediately to relieve said officer from his command and take prompt measures to have him tried for said offense; and any department or district commander who shall fail to do as required by this act as above stated shall, upon conviction thereof, be dismissed the service."

Mr. Bridgers called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Clapp was lost.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Clapp was lost, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Pugh moved to amend the third section by striking out, in lines 3, 4, and 5, the words "nor shall those who have furnished substitutes be any longer exempted by reason thereof."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; which latter motion was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the third section by striking out the words

that no person shall be relieved from the operation of this law by reason of having been heretofore discharged from the Army, where no disability now exists: *Provided*.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the fourth section by inserting after the word "service," in line 4, the words "by reason of physical and mental disability for military service in the field." and demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	Yea	17
	Nays	41

Yeas: Arrington, Bridgers, Chambers, Clark, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Hanly, Holcombe, Holder, Jones, Russell, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Gartrell, Goode, Hart-ridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the fourth section by striking out the whole of the second clause; which reads as follows, viz:

The Vice-President of the Confederate States, the members of Congress and of the several State legislatures, and the officers thereof, and such other Confederate and State officers as the President or the governors of the States, respectively, may declare to be necessary to the proper administration of the Confederate or State governments, as the case may be.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays thereon.

Mr. Machen moved a call of the House.

The motion was agreed to.

Upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Arrington, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Tibbs, Villeré, and Welsh.

A quorum being present.

Mr. Holcombe moved that all further proceedings under the call be dispensed with; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Holcombe moved to amend the fourth section by inserting after the word "thereof," in line 8, the words "judges of the several States."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the said section by inserting, in line 8, after the amendment of Mr. Holcombe, the words "except justices of the peace."

Mr. Wilcox moved to refer the bill to a select committee of three members, said committee to report at the next session of Congress.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Swan moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Goode called the question; which was ordered, and the motion was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Lyons,

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the fourth section further by inserting, in line 8, after the word "thereof," the words "if so declared by State laws."

Mr. Staples called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Simpson moved to amend the fourth section by striking out all after the word "thereof," in line 8, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

and the officers, executive and judicial, of the Confederate and State governments, except such State officers as the several States may have declared or may hereafter declare by law to be liable to military duty.

Mr. Hanly called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Simpson was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend section 4 by striking out, in line 6, the words "members of Congress," and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 17
 } Nays----- 58 [57]

Yeas: Barksdale, Dargan, Davidson, Foote, Foster, Garland, Holder, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, McRae, Menees, Swan, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, Villeré, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Simpson was agreed to.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Pugh moved to amend the third clause of section 4 by striking out the words

authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect, and who was on the tenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and has been since in the regular discharge of his ministerial duties,

and inserting in lieu thereof the words

over thirty-five years of age on the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, who was then authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect and is now in the regular discharge of ministerial duties, having charge of a church and congregation.

Mr. Goode called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Lander demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas----- 14
 } Nays----- 53

Yeas: Clark, Foster, Gartrell, Heiskell, Holder, Johnston, McRae, Miles, Miller, Pugh, Swan, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler,

Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hilton, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Tibbs, and Welsh.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Pugh moved to amend the section by striking out the same words and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

who on the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, was authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect and is now in the regular discharge of ministerial duties, having charge of a church and congregation.

Mr. Goode called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend by striking out the same words and inserting the words

who on the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, was authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect and is now in the regular discharge of ministerial duties, having charge of a church, circuit, station, or congregation.

Mr. Johnston called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Ingram moved to amend the said clause (section 4, third clause) by inserting after the word "duties," in line 15, the words "all post-masters who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the clause by inserting after the word "duties," in line 15, the words

each publisher of schoolbooks and such journeymen printers as he may under oath declare to be indispensable for printing said books.

Mr. Johnston called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Arrington moved to amend by inserting, in line 15, after the word "superintendents," the word "teachers;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by inserting, in same line, after the word "teachers," the word "physicians;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Funsten moved to amend by striking out the words, in lines 17, 18, and 19, "who was owner or editor of a newspaper at that date, and which has been so published regularly since that time," and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

or prior to that date and since the beginning of this war, who was owner or editor of a newspaper at that date, within the time aforesaid, and which has been so published regularly since such time.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Funsten was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to amend by striking out after the word "insane," in line 16, the words

one editor of each newspaper established and being published on the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or prior to that date and since the beginning of this war, who was owner or editor of a newspaper at that date or within the time aforesaid, and which has been so published regularly since such time, and such journeymen printers as such editor may, under oath, declare are indispensable for printing said newspaper,

Mr. Goode then submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in section 4, all after the word "insane," in line 15, and down to and including "newspaper," in line 21, and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz: "The principal editor of each newspaper which was established prior to the sixteenth day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and is now being regularly published, and such journeymen printers as such editor may declare, on oath, are indispensably necessary for printing said newspaper."

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the fourth section by inserting, in line 19, after the word "time," the words "and who is a practical printer," and called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by striking out the words "sixteenth April" and inserting "eleventh October;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Lewis submitted the following amendment:

In line 21, after the word "newspaper," insert the following: "Provided, That no editor shall be entitled to the privilege of this act whose paper has an actual circulation less than five thousand copies."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Russell moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Curry, inserting, in line 19, the words "and who is a practical printer," was agreed to.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the section by striking out the entire clause relating to newspapers, as amended.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Barksdale demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: }	Yeas	-----	17
	Nays	-----	45

Yeas: Arrington, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Johnston, Jones, Lewis, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Staples, and Welsh.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Conrow, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. McRae moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Machen moved to amend said section by inserting after the word "business," in line 24, the words "as an apothecary;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith moved to amend by inserting, in line 21, after the word "newspaper," the words "printers and bookbinders employed in the publication of schoolbooks."

Mr. Goode called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Smith of North Carolina demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	} Yeas..... 22	} Nays..... 35

Yeas: Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Clapp, Conrow, Davidson, Gaither, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Chambers, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend by inserting, in line 21, after the word "newspaper," the words "the Public Printer and those employed to perform the public printing for the Confederate and State governments;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Ralls moved to amend by striking out, in line 23, the words "sixteenth April" and inserting "eleventh October;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Russell moved to amend by striking out the clause relating to apothecaries: which reads as follows, viz:

one skilled apothecary in each apothecary store, who was doing business as such apothecary on the eleventh of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and who is now and has been doing business as an apothecary since that time.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. McRae moved to amend by inserting after the word "store," in line 22, the words "in which nothing but medicines are sold;" which was agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. McRae moved to amend his amendment by inserting after the word "medicines" the words "medicine stores and surgical instruments."

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment as amended,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones called the previous question; which was not seconded.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Swan,

Resolved itself into open session.

FORTY-NINTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Duncan.

Mr. Curry introduced

A bill to repeal an act entitled "An act to discharge certain civil officers from the military service of the Confederate States," approved April 2, 1863.

The bill was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Curry also introduced

A bill to regulate furloughs in certain cases; which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Curry also introduced joint resolutions in reference to the treatment of colored troops; which were read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Curry also introduced joint resolutions of thanks to Lieutenant-General Longstreet and the officers and men of his command; which were read first and second times.

Mr. Curry moved to suspend the rules which required the resolutions to be referred to a committee.

The motion was agreed to.

The joint resolutions were then engrossed, read a third time, and unanimously passed.

Mr. Curry moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Foster introduced joint resolutions of thanks to the division commanded by Major-General Rodas; which were read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Speaker laid before the House a series of resolutions adopted by the Twentieth Artillery Battalion of Alabama Volunteers, reenlisting for the war; which were laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Foster introduced

A bill to exempt certain persons from the payment of the tax in kind;

which was read first and second times and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Foster introduced

A bill to increase the pay of the noncommissioned officers and privates of the Army;

which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Foster moved to suspend the rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered.

The motion did not prevail.

The bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Lander, by unanimous consent, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the brigade of North Carolina troops commanded by Brig. Gen. S. D. Ramseur for reenlisting for the war; which was read first and second times.

The rule requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee being suspended, it was engrossed, read a third time, and unanimously passed.

On motion of Mr. Pugh, the vote by which the joint resolutions of thanks to the troops of Major-General Rodas were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs was reconsidered.

Mr. Pugh then moved that the rule requiring the joint resolutions be referred to a committee be suspended.

The motion was agreed to.

The joint resolutions were then engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Chambers moved that they be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Jones moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The motion to refer was lost.

The joint resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

Mr. Conrad moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to introduce a bill, and demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The motion to suspend the rules was lost.

Mr. Sexton moved to suspend the rules requiring States to be called for bills, memorials, etc.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to certain Florida troops; which was read first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Hilton, the rule requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee was suspended.

And the same having been engrossed, was read a third time and unanimously passed.

Mr. Gartrell presented a memorial of D. E. McCurry, of Georgia, asserting a claim for carrying the mail; which was referred to the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads.

Mr. Wright of Georgia introduced the following preamble and resolutions, viz:

Whereas the President of the United States in a late public communication did declare that no proposition for peace had been made to that Government by the Confederate States, when in truth such propositions were prevented from being made by the President of the United States, in that he refused to hear, or even to receive, the commissioners appointed to treat expressly of the preservation of amicable relations between the two Governments:

Nevertheless, that the Confederate States may stand justified in the sight of the conservative men of the North of all parties, and that the world may know which of the two Governments it is that urges on a war unparalleled for the fierceness of the conflict, and intensifying into a sectional hatred unsurpassed in the annals of mankind: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Confederate States do invite the United States, through their Government at Washington, to meet them, by representatives, equal to the Representatives and Senators of their respective Congress, at _____ on the _____ day of _____ next, to consider—

First. Whether they can not agree upon the recognition of the Confederate States of America.

Second. In the event of such recognition, they can not agree upon a new government founded upon the integrity and sovereignty of the States; but if this can not be done, to consider:

Third. Whether they can not agree upon treaties, offensive, defensive, and commercial.

Resolved, In the event of the passage of these resolutions, the President be requested to communicate the same to the Government at Washington, in such manner as he may deem most in accordance with the usages of nations; and in the event of their acceptance by that Government, he do issue his proclamation of election of delegates under such regulations as he may deem expedient.

On motion of Mr. Pugh,

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and after spending some time therein, resumed business in open session.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 79. An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy:

H. R. 94. An act to provide for wounded and disabled officers, soldiers, and seamen an asylum, to be called "The Veteran Soldiers' Home;"

H. R. 99. An act to authorize commanders of corps and departments to detail field officers as members of military courts under certain circumstances;

H. R. 8. Joint resolution of thanks to Col. Thomas G. Lamar and the officers and men engaged in the defense of Secessionville;

H. R. 19. Joint resolution of thanks to Captain Odlum, Lieutenant Dowling, and the men under their command;

H. R. 23. Joint resolution of thanks to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for their defense of Charleston, S. C.; and

H. R. 24. Joint resolution of thanks to the Alabama troops who have reenlisted for the war.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Lyons moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Swan,

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Having reassembled,

The House, on motion of Mr. Foster, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

On motion of Mr. Swan,

The House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the Senate bill to organize forces to serve during the war.

Mr. McLean moved to amend the fourth section by inserting, in line 24, after the word "physician," the words "not including dentists."

Mr. Wilcox called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. McLean was agreed to.

Mr. McQueen moved to amend by striking out, in same clause, the word "thirty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "thirty."

Mr. Clark moved to amend the amendment of Mr. McQueen by striking out the word "thirty" and inserting the word "forty."

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Clark was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the amendment of Mr. McQueen by striking out the word "thirty" and inserting the word "thirty-eight."

The amendment of Mr. Conrad was lost.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. McQueen was lost.

Mr. Miles moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution restricting debate on proposed amendments.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas..... 48
 Nays..... 18

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon,

Machen, Martin, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Conrad, Curry, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Lewis, Lyons, McLean, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Wright of Texas.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the rules were suspended, and

Mr. Miles offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That all debate shall be suspended until the bill under consideration shall be ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Miles by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

That the debate on amendments to the pending bill be limited to two speeches—one for and one against the proposed amendment, and neither to exceed five minutes in length.

Mr. Welsh moved to lay the amendment of Mr. Smith of North Carolina on the table; which motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Smith was agreed to, and the resolution of Mr. Miles, as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. Wright of Texas moved to amend the fourth section by inserting, in line 26, after the word “profession,” the following:

Provided, That said physicians shall not charge exceeding fifty per cent on fees as charged in eighteen hundred and sixty-one for professional services,

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered. The amendment was lost.

Mr. Curry moved to amend by inserting after the word “profession,” in line 26, the words “the superintendent and not more than ten reporters of the Press Association.”

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Clapp moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer a resolution.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Clapp offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That any resolution or proposition having for its object a cessation of hostilities with the United States, or suggesting any overture or proceeding on the part of the Congress or Government of the Confederate States with a view to the obtaining of peace, be first submitted by the member proposing the same to the House in secret session.

Mr. Clapp called the question; which was ordered, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Hartridge moved to reconsider the vote by which the resolution was adopted, and called the question: which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Holcombe submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in lines 26, 27, 28, and 29, the words “Teachers whose schools are composed of not less than twenty students, and who are now engaged, and have been continuously engaged, in teaching for two years next preceding the passage of this act,” and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz: “All presidents and teachers of colleges, academies, schools, and theological seminaries who have been regularly engaged as such for two years previous to the passage of this act: *Provided*, That the benefit of this exemption shall extend to those teachers only whose schools are composed of twenty students or more.”

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Holcombe moved to amend by adding to the amendment just adopted the following:

For the remainder of the current session, all students in any incorporated institution of learning.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by inserting after the word "profession," in line 26, the following:

All persons who have been, and now are, members of the Society of Friends and the Association of Dunkards, Nazarenes, and Mennonists, in regular membership in their respective denominations, who have not paid the sum of five hundred dollars, as heretofore required by law for such exemption, on condition that for each one so exempted the sum of five hundred dollars be paid into the Treasury.

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Smith by adding the following, viz:

Provided, That this exemption shall not apply to any person not a member of said churches on the sixteenth of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

The amendment of Mr. Atkins was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Smith, as amended,

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Smith was lost.

Mr. Swan moved to amend the fourth section by adding at the end of third paragraph the following:

And provided further, That the persons exempted under this paragraph shall take and subscribe an oath that during the pending war they have in no manner engaged in the purchase and sale of provisions and clothing with a view to profit thereby.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend by adding at end of third paragraph the following, viz:

And provided further, That editors of newspapers, apothecaries, physicians, and public printers of Confederate and State governments, who are exempted under this act, shall, before they are exempt hereunder, pay to the collector of the district in which they may reside the sum of five hundred dollars, taking from such collector a receipt for the amount so paid, which he shall file with the Secretary of the Treasury to the end that such collector may be charged with the amount thereof.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Bridgers submitted the following amendment as an independent paragraph, to come in between the third and fourth:

IV. Superintendents, mechanics, miners, and engineers employed in the production and manufacture of lead and iron, persons engaged in burning coke for smelting and manufacture of iron, and one collier to each furnace, and one for every two forges making charcoal blooms; but said exemption shall not apply to laborers, messengers, and wagoners: *Provided*, The persons interested in the exemptions enumerated in this section shall make an affidavit, in writing, that said persons are necessary to such works, and that, after diligent effort, they have been unable to employ persons who are not liable to military duty.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Bridgers was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend by adding the following as an independent section, to come in between the third and fourth:

Shoemakers, tanners, blacksmiths, wagon makers, millers and their engineers.

Mr. Pugh moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Smith by striking out the whole and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

All shoemakers, tanners, blacksmiths, wagon makers, over thirty-five years old, skilled and actually employed on the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-

two, and for two years prior thereto in said trades as their regular and exclusive vocation, and working therein for the public, and who have since said time been so regularly and exclusively employed: *Provided*, Said persons shall make oath, in writing, supported by the affidavits of at least two creditable persons, that they, said artisans and mechanics, are so skilled, and are, and have been, since the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, actually and exclusively employed in one of the above trades as their regular and exclusive vocation, and working for the public at rates not exceeding seventy-five per cent on the actual cost to them of the article produced by them for sale, and that they have not in any way stimulated the advance in prices of the raw material out of which their various manufactures have been or are made; and it shall be the duty of each enrolling officer to make diligent inquiry into the truth of said affidavit, and if he shall find the same or any part thereof untrue the exemption shall not be allowed.

The amendment of Mr. Pugh was agreed to.

The amendment as amended was lost.

Mr. Farrow moved to amend by adding at the end of third paragraph the words:

also one superintendent for each cotton, woolen, and paper factory, under such terms and regulations as the Secretary of War may direct.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the fourth paragraph by striking out the words "feme sole," in line 38.

The amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. McRae moved to amend by striking out, in same line, the words "minor, or person of unsound mind, a feme sole;" which was not agreed to.

Mr. Hartridge moved to amend said paragraph by striking out, in lines 40 and 41, the words "effective hands" and insert in lieu thereof the word "slaves," and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas-----	33
{ Nays-----	30

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Foster, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Clark, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Gray, Hanly, Heiskell, Hilton, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miller, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villére, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Dupré submitted the following amendment:

Strike out, in lines 41 and 42, the words "the person so exempted was employed and acting as an overseer previous to the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and;"

which was agreed to.

Mr. Simpson moved to amend by striking [out] after the word "exempted," in line 38, the words

one person on each farm or plantation the sole property of a minor, a person of unsound mind, a feme sole, or a person absent from home in the military or naval service of the Confederacy, on which there are twenty or more slaves: *Provided*, There is no white male adult on said farm or plantation who is not liable to military duty,

which facts shall be verified by the affidavits of said person and two respectable citizens, and shall be filed with the enrolling officer,

and insert in lieu thereof the following, viz:

one overseer on each farm or [plantation] on which there are twenty or more slaves, and on which there is no white male adult who is not liable to military duty, which facts shall be verified by the affidavits of two respectable citizens, and shall be filed with the enrolling officer: *Provided*, That the tax in kind of said farms or plantations shall be doubled.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Simpson by striking out the words "twenty slaves" and inserting in lieu thereof "ten efficient hands."

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays on the amendment of Mr. Machen;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 17 [19]
 } Nays 40

Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Heiskell, Hilton, Machen, McKae, Menees, Miller, Perkins, Royston, Russell, Singleton, Strickland, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McQueen, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Foster called the question.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question; which was not seconded.

The question was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Simpson was lost.

Mr. Goode moved to amend by inserting after the word "duty," in line 50, the words

Provided further, That the owner of such farm or plantation shall sell all his surplus provisions hereafter raised for the use of soldiers' families and for the use of the Government at prices not greater than those fixed for the time being by the commissioners appointed under the impressment act,

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 42
 } Nays 25

Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Chambers, Chilton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foote, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McKae, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Georgia.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Horatio W. Bruce, Clark, Clopton, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, Miles, Preston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Staples.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton submitted the following amendment:

Strike out after the word "annually," in line 55, the words "into the public Treasury, by the owners of such slaves, the sum of five hundred dollars," and insert

in lieu thereof the following, viz: "for the benefit of the Government one-tenth of the tithable products raised on said farm or plantation in return for such exemption."

Mr. Ingram moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Hilton by striking out the whole and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

the sum of twenty-five dollars for every hand so employed.

The amendment of Mr. Ingram was agreed to.

Pending the amendment of Mr. Hilton,

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America:

The present state of the Confederacy, in my judgment, requires that I should invite your attention to a condition of things existing in the country which has already been productive of serious evil and which threatens still graver consequences unless an adequate remedy shall be speedily applied by the legislation of Congress. It has been our cherished hope, and hitherto justified by the generous self-devotion of our citizens, that when the great struggle in which we are engaged was passed, we might exhibit to the world the proud spectacle of a people unanimous in the assertion and defense of their rights, and achieving their liberty and independence, after the bloodiest war of modern times, without the necessity of a single sacrifice of civil right to military necessity. But it can no longer be doubted that the zeal with which the people sprang to arms at the beginning of the contest has in some parts of the Confederacy been impaired by the long continuance and magnitude of the struggle.

While brigade after brigade of our brave soldiers who have endured the trials of the camp and battlefield are testifying their spirit and patriotism by a voluntary reenlistment for the war, discontent, disaffection, and disloyalty are manifested among those who, through the sacrifices of others, have enjoyed quiet and safety at home. Public meetings have been held, in some of which a treasonable design is masked by a pretense of devotion to State sovereignty, and in others is openly avowed. Conventions are advocated with the pretended object of redressing grievances, which, if they existed, could as well be remedied by ordinary legislative action, but with the real design of accomplishing treason under the form of law. To this end a strong suspicion is entertained that secret leagues and associations are being formed. In certain localities men of no mean position do not hesitate to avow their disloyalty and hostility to our cause, and their advocacy of peace on the terms of submission and the abolition of slavery. In districts overrun by the enemy, or liable to their encroachments, citizens of well-known disloyalty are holding frequent communication with them, and furnishing valuable information to our injury, even to the frustration of important military movements. And yet must they, through too strict regard to the technicalities of the law, be permitted to go at large till they have perfected their treason by the commission of an overt act? After the commission of the act the evidence is often unattainable because within the enemy's lines. Again and again such persons have been arrested, and as often they have been discharged by the civil authorities, because the Government could not procure testimony from within the lines of the enemy. On one occasion, while a party of officers were laying a torpedo in James River, persons on shore were detected in communicating with the enemy, and were known to pilot them to a convenient post for observing the nature of the service in which the party were engaged. They were arrested, and were discharged on habeas corpus, because, although there was moral certainty of their guilt, it could not be proved by competent testimony. Twice the Government has received secret and confidential information of plots to release the prisoners confined in Richmond. The information was sufficiently definite to enable preventive measures to be adopted with success; but as it pointed out the guilty conspirators by strong suspicion only, and not by competent testimony, they could not be arrested, and are still at large, ready to plot again. A citizen possessing the means and opportunity of doing much injury to the service was arrested for disloyalty. He was twice examined before different commissioners. Upon each examination he avowed his hostility to our cause and his desire to join the enemy. Both commissioners considered that it would be dangerous to suffer him to go at large. Yet, upon the demand of the civil authorities, he had to be released for want of competent legal testimony.

The capital of the Government is the object of peculiar attention to the enemy. I have satisfactory reasons for believing that spies are continually coming and going in our midst. Information has been repeatedly received from friendly parties at the North that particular individuals then in Richmond were sent as spies by the enemy.

Yet, however accurate and reliable such information might be, it was not competent testimony, and it was idle to arrest them, only to be discharged by the civil authorities. Important information of secret movements among the negroes, fomented by base white men, has been received from faithful servants, but no arrests of instigators could be made because there was no competent testimony. Apprehensions have more than once been entertained of a servile insurrection in Richmond. The Northern papers inform us that Butler is perfecting some deep-laid scheme to punish us for our refusal to hold intercourse with him. If, as is not improbable, his design should point to servile insurrection in Richmond, incendiarism, and the destruction of public works, so necessary to our defense, and so impossible to be replaced, how can we hope to fathom it and reach the guilty emissaries and contrivers but by incompetent negro testimony?

In some of the States civil process has been brought to bear with disastrous efficiency upon the Army. Every judge has power to issue the writ of habeas corpus, and if one manifests more facility in discharging petitioners than his associates, the application is made to him, however remote he may be. In one instance a general, on the eve of an important movement, when every man was needed, was embarrassed by the command of a judge, more than two hundred miles distant, to bring, if in his custody, or send, if in custody of another, before him, on habeas corpus, some deserters who had been arrested and returned to his command. In another, the commandant of a camp of conscripts, who had a conscript in camp, was commanded to bring him before a judge, more than a hundred miles distant, although there was a judge competent to hear and determine the cause resident in the place where the writ was executed. He consulted eminent counsel and was advised that, from the known opinions of the judge selected, the conscript would undoubtedly be released, and the officer was therefore advised to discharge him at once and return the facts informally; that such a return was not technically sufficient, but would be accepted as accomplishing the purpose of the writ. He acted on the advice of his counsel, and was immediately summoned by the judge to show cause why he should not be attached for a contempt in making an insufficient return, and was compelled to leave his command at a time when his services were pressingly needed by the Government, and travel over a hundred miles, and a considerable distance away from any railroad, to purge himself of the technical contempt. These particular instances may serve to show the nature of the delays, difficulties, and embarrassments which are constantly occurring. And injurious as they are, they are but light and trivial in comparison with evils which are reasonably to be anticipated.

It is understood that questions are to be multiplied as to the constitutionality of the late act of Congress placing in the military service those who had furnished substitutes. If a single judge in any State should hold the act to be unconstitutional, it is easy to foresee that that State will either furnish no soldiers from this class, or furnish them only when too late for the pressing need of the country. Every application will be made to that particular judge, and he will discharge the petitioners in each. And although the officer may have the right of appeal, yet the delay will be tantamount in its consequences to a discharge. Indeed, this result is likely to ensue, though every judge in the Confederacy should hold the law to be perfectly constitutional and valid. A petition for a habeas corpus need not, and ordinarily does not, disclose the particular grounds upon which the petitioner claims his discharge. A general statement on oath that he is illegally restrained of his liberty is sufficient to induce and even require the judge to issue the writ. In every case the enrollment will be followed by the writ, and every enrolling officer will be kept in continual motion to and from the judge until the embarrassment and delay will amount to the practical repeal of the law. Its provisions will add no more soldiers to the Army. But this is not all. We shall not be able to retain those already in service. Nothing has done so much to inspirit our brave soldiers as the determination evinced by Congress to send to their aid those who have thus far lived in ease at home, while they were enduring dangers, toils, and privations. When the hope of equal justice and of speedy reinforcement shall thus have failed, disappointment and despondency will displace the buoyant fortitude which animates them now. Desertion, already a frightful evil, will become the order of the day, and who will arrest the deserter when most of those at home are engaged with him in the common cause of setting the Government at defiance? Organized bands of deserters will patrol the country, burning, plundering, and robbing indiscriminately; and our armies, already too weak, must be still further depleted, at the most imminent crisis of our cause, to keep the peace and protect the lives and property of the citizens at home. Must these evils be endured? Must the independence for which we are contending, the safety of the defenseless families of the men who have fallen in battle and of those who still confront the invader, be put in peril for the sake of conformity to the technicalities of the law of treason?

Having thus presented some of the threatening evils which exist, it remains to suggest the remedy, and in my judgment that is only to be found in the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus. It is a sharp remedy, but a necessary one. It is a remedy plainly contemplated by the Constitution. All the powers of the Government, extraordinary as well as ordinary, are a sacred trust, to be faithfully executed whenever the public exigency may require. Recognizing the general obligation, we can not escape from the duty in one case more than in another. And a suspension of this writ when demanded by the public safety is as much a duty as to levy taxes for the support of the Government. If the state of invasion declared by the Constitution to be a proper case for the exercise of this power does not exist in our country now, when can it ever be expected to arise? It is idle to appeal against it to the history of the old Union. That history contains no parallel case. England, whose reverence for this great writ of right is at least as strong as our own, and the stability of whose institutions is the admiration of the world, has repeatedly, within the last hundred years, resorted to this remedy when only threatened with invasion. It may occasion some clamor; but this will proceed chiefly from the men who have already too long been the active spirits of evil. Loyal citizens will not feel danger, and the disloyal must be made to fear it. The very existence of extraordinary powers often renders their exercise unnecessary. To temporize with disloyalty in the midst of war is but to quicken it to the growth of treason. I, therefore, respectfully recommend that the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus be suspended.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Garland moved that the communication be printed for the use of the House in secret session.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the motion of Mr. Garland by striking out the same and substituting in lieu thereof,

That the Committee on the Judiciary be requested to confer with the President upon the propriety of publishing the communication to the country.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the further consideration of this subject be had in open session.

Mr. Curry called the question; which was ordered, and the motion of Mr. Baldwin was lost.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Swan, resolved itself into open session.

Being again in secret session,

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Miles to the motion of Mr. Garland to print the message of the President,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the motion of Mr. Garland, as amended, on the table; which motion prevailed.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order (the Senate bill to organize forces to serve during the war).

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Hilton, as amended, It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Machen submitted the following amendment:

Strike out after the figures "1862," in line 53, the words "*Provided further, That for every person exempted as aforesaid, and during the period of such exemption, there shall be paid annually into the public Treasury, by the owners of such slaves, the sum of five hundred dollars,*"

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	25
Nays	33

Yeas: Arrington, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Goode,

Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Holder, Jones, Lander, Machen, Martin, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Chilton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Foote, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, McLean, McQueen, Menecs, Miles, Miller, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment:

Strike out the words from the figures "1862," in line 53, down to word "dollars," in line 57, and insert in lieu thereof the following: "That every person exempted by the operation of this act, except those exempted in the first and second clauses of the present section, and during the period of such exemption, shall pay annually into the public Treasury the sum of five hundred dollars, except ministers of the gospel and superintendents of the asylums of the deaf, dumb, blind, and insane,"

Mr. Atkins called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Miles then moved to amend by striking out the same words and inserting the following:

That every person exempted by the operation of this act, except those mentioned in the first and second clauses of this section, and during the period of said exemption, shall pay annually into the public Treasury.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miles by inserting after the word "second" the words "third and fourth."

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the amendment and the amendment to the amendment on the table; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Foster moved to amend by inserting after the word "dollars," in line 57, the words "Persons in the military and naval service of the Confederate States excepted."

Mr. Dargan moved to lay the amendment on the table.

Upon which Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Swan moved to amend by inserting after the word "dollars," in line 57, the following:

And that the person so exempted shall take and subscribe an oath that he has not and will not during the pending war engage in trade with a view to profit by buying and selling provisions or clothing or the material of which clothing is made.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend by inserting after the word "dollars," in line 57, the words "Except persons absent in the military or naval service, widows, minors, and persons of unsound mind."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Machen demanded the previous question; which was not seconded.

Mr. Bridgers moved to amend the bill by striking out the whole of the fourth paragraph in fourth section, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 27
 Nays ----- 34

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Bridges, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McRae,

Munnerlyn, Ralls, Russell, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Boteler, Chambers, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Dargan, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Goode moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Dupré was agreed to.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the fourth paragraph by striking out the last proviso; which reads as follows, viz:

Provided further, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the President from detailing the owner of a plantation to oversee the same upon the terms and in the cases where such owner would have the right to claim the exemption of an overseer to manage such plantation.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to strike out the fourth paragraph of section 4.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Ralls moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Goode, in line 50, was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. Chambers demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table was lost.

The question recurring on the motion to reconsider,

Mr. McLean called the question; which was ordered, and the motion prevailed.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Goode,

Mr. McLean called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was lost.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina submitted the following amendment:

Add at end of fourth paragraph the following: "And for necessary subsistence there shall be also exempt one white man, the head of a family of eight or more white persons who are wholly dependent on his labor for support."

Mr. Heiskell called the question: which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. McRae moved to amend the bill by striking out the third and fourth paragraphs.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment as an independent paragraph, to come in between the fourth and fifth paragraphs:

The president, treasurer, auditor, and superintendent of any railroad company over whose railroad military transportation is performed, and such officers and employees of such company as the president or superintendent of such railroad company shall certify, on oath, to be necessary to the efficient operation of such railroad: *Provided*, That the number of persons so exempted by this act on any railroad shall not exceed two for each mile of such railroad in actual use for military transportation; and shall be reported by name and description, with the names of any who may leave the employment of the said company or may cease to be necessary to the efficient operation of its railroad, at least once a month to the Secretary of War, or such officers as he may designate for that purpose: *And provided further*,

That such president or superintendent shall, in each such monthly report, certify, on oath, that no person liable to military service has been employed by this company since the passage of this act in any portion [position] in which it was practicable to employ one not liable to military service and capable of performing efficiently the duties of such position.

Mr. Dargan moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miles by striking out the words "two for each mile" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "one for each mile."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Perkins called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Dargan was agreed to.

Mr. Chambers moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Miles by adding at the end thereof the following, viz:

But every person so exempted shall during the war pay the sum of five hundred dollars annually into the Treasury of the Confederate States.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Chambers was lost.

The amendment of Mr. Miles, as amended, was then agreed to.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Swan,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTIETH DAY—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

The House resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was a joint resolution for the relief of Wellington Goddin.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the joint resolution by striking out the words "from the first day of June last."

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Clark moved to lay the joint resolution on the table; which motion was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to report a bill from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Clopton, from the Committee on Claims, reported

A bill for the relief of Livingston Mims;
which was read the first and second times.

The question being on postponing,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Clopton, from the same committee, reported back

A joint resolution for the relief of Maj. Henry R. Hooper,
with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the joint resolution,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the forty-second rule was suspended for the remainder of the session.

Mr. Jones moved to suspend for the remainder of the session the rule requiring Senate amendments to House bills to be referred to a committee.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury;

which was read first and second times.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Boyce offered the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Sec. 2. That the increase of salaries allowed to the clerks and employees of the Treasury Department at Richmond be, and the same are hereby, extended upon the same conditions to the clerks and employees of the same Department at Columbia, South Carolina.

Mr. Ewing offered the following amendment; which was not agreed to, viz:

Provided, That the above act shall only remain in force until the fifteenth of May next.

The bill as amended was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill to authorize the President to establish additional military courts,

with a recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Gray moved to amend the bill as follows, viz: After the word "field," in the fifth line, insert "and also one for each State within a military department."

Mr. Gray called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Conrad, under a suspension of the rules, reported back from the Committee on Naval Affairs a Senate joint resolution (S. 22) for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The amendment was read as follows, viz:

Resolved by the Congress of the Confederate States, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to cause the claim of Zedekiah McDaniel and Francis M. Ewing for compensation for having, by means of a torpedo invented and used by them, sunk the steam gunboat Cairo in the Yazoo River, on or about the twelfth day of December, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, to be adjusted under the provisions of the act entitled "An act to amend an act to recognize the existence of war between the United States and the Confederate States," approved April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-one.

The question being on postponing and placing the joint resolution on the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution as amended was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Conrad, under a suspension of the rule, reported back from the Committee on Naval Affairs

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a volunteer navy," approved April 18, 1863, with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Clapp, from the Committee on Claims, reported joint resolution for the relief of Mary C. Morgan, John McKown, and Samuel McKown; which was read first and second times.

The question being on postponing the joint resolution,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back a memorial of the armorers of the Confederate States Armory at Richmond, with a recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on the Ordnance Department; which was agreed to.

Mr. Simpson, from the Committee on Claims, reported back a memorial from detailed soldiers employed as clerks in the Quartermaster's Department, praying an increase of compensation, with a recommendation that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means; which was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 22. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and men under his command for distinguished services at Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, November 27, 1863.

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 208. A bill to provide compensation for officers who may heretofore have performed staff duty under orders of their superior officers;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have also passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 204. A bill to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell,

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

Mr. Barksdale moved that the House adjourn; which motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Having reassembled,

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 204) to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 208) to provide compensation for officers who may heretofore have performed

staff duty under orders of their superior officers; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Gartrell,

The House then resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

The House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Jones moved that the special order be postponed to enable him to report certain bills from the Committee on Ways and Means.

The motion was agreed to, and

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill to authorize the shipment of cotton and tobacco by the Treasury Department; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering said bill, Mr. McRae in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that the committee had had the matter referred to them under consideration, and recommended that the bill do pass without amendment.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Jones, from the same committee, also reported

A bill to declare the construction of the fifth paragraph of the eighth section of the tax act; which was read a first and second time, postponed, and placed upon the Calendar.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the Senate bill (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

Mr. Lewis submitted the following amendment:

Insert as an independent paragraph, to come in before paragraph 5 of section 4:

"Nothing in this act shall be so construed as to prevent any State in the organization of its military force for home defense from enrolling, forming into companies, and keeping drilled all persons exempted and detailed by the action of Congress or the President: *Provided*, That railroad employees and civil officers of the States or Confederate Government exempted by law shall not be subject to the operation of this section."

The amendment of Mr. Lewis was lost.

Mr. Chambers moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Smith of North Carolina, at the end of paragraph 4, was agreed to.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend his amendment by striking out the word "wholly."

The amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment as amended,

Mr. Johnston demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the fifth paragraph by striking out, in line 63, the word "*Provided*."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Holcombe submitted the following amendment:

Before the word "that," in line 63, insert the following:

"No farmer or planter engaged on the fifth of January, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, in the production of grain and provisions, either by his own manual labor or in superintending the labor of others, shall be embraced in the operations of this act: *Provided*, The exemption herein contemplated is granted subject to the following conditions:

"I. That the person availing himself thereof shall devote himself, and the labor of which he has the control or superintendence, exclusively to the production of provisions.

"II. That there shall be paid and contributed from the farm, or, if more than one farm, from each of the farms which the person thus exempted owns or superintends, in addition to the tithe required by any tax law, an additional tenth of the pork or bacon produced on said farm or farms (beginning with the product of last year) for the use of the Army.

"III. That the person thus exempted will, if so required, sell all his surplus provisions, now on hand or hereafter raised, for the use of soldiers' families, or for the use of the Army, at prices not greater than those fixed for the time being by the commissioners appointed under the impressment act.

"IV. That the person seeking to avail himself of the benefit of this act shall have furnished a substitute not liable to military duty, who is now in the service, or who has been legally discharged therefrom, or who has died therein.

"V. That the benefit of this act shall not apply to persons on farms or plantations on which there is any other male adult not liable to military duty."

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Holcombe demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas..... 32
Nays..... 34

Yeas: Arrington, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Davidson, De Jarnette, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, Miles, Preston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Wright of Georgia, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Boteler, Chilton, Clopton, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Maehen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McKae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Strickland, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Miles submitted the following amendment:

Add at the end of the fifth paragraph the following as an additional clause:

"SEC. —. *And be it further enacted*, That exemption from conscription or military service in the Army of the Confederate States is hereby allowed to the members of any fire company organized before the commencement of the present war, in any town or city now having a population of at least ten thousand, on the following conditions, to wit: Such company must now have at least as many members over the age of forty-five as under that age, and must have or assume a military as well as a fire organization, and must perform the duty of an ambulance company whenever required by the Secretary of War, and must perform provost-guard duty in the town or city of its organization or aid in repelling any invasions of the State in which it was organized whenever required by the proper military authority: *And provided further*, That such persons shall only be exempt so long as they shall continue to discharge the duties required by this section."

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holder, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chambers, Chilton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Funsten, Graham, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Menees, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, and Wilcox.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the main question was seconded.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Pugh,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on ordering the bill as amended to a third reading,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill having been read a third time,

Mr. Curry moved to reconsider the vote by which it was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Heiskell called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Curry moved to amend the bill by striking out the whole thereof and inserting the bill as amended, with the words "Niter and Mining Bureau" stricken out, wherever they occur, as a substitute, and called the question; which was ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Curry was agreed to.

Mr. Bridgers rose to a point of order, viz:

That the sixth, seventh, and eighth sections of the bill had not been read.

The Chair overruled the point of order.

Mr. Jones appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Sexton moved to lay the appeal on the table.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Curry was agreed to.

Mr. Clark demanded the previous question.

The demand was seconded.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Atkins to reconsider,

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 34
 { Nays----- 34

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bridgers, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Baldwin, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Foote, Foster,

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar.

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Dupré moved to suspend, during the discussion of this bill, the rule limiting debate to ten minutes.

Upon which Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 31
Nays----- 37

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gattrell, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Lyon, Miles, Miller, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Goode, Hanly, Heiskell, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to suspend the rules was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved that the House resolve itself into open session for the purpose of considering this bill.

Upon which Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 21
Nays----- 48

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Graham, McQueen, Menees, Preston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dargan, Ewing, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McLean, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of this House of the following title, viz: H. R. 92. An act to tax, fund, and limit the currency,

With sundry amendments; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The House.

On motion of Mr. Miles,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-FIRST DAY—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Duncan.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 215. A bill to amend an act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi, approved January 27, 1864;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, joint resolutions of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 26. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Florida troops;

H. R. 27. Joint resolution of thanks to the division commanded by Major-General Rodes; and

H. R. 28. Joint resolution of thanks to Brig. Gen. S. D. Ramseur's brigade of North Carolina troops for tendering their services for the war.

Mr. Hartridge moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Foote demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 28
Nays----- 28

Yeas: Barksdale, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Hartridge, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Vest, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Holder, Ingram, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Preston, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Villeré.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Boteler moved to suspend the rule requiring the call of the States for bills, resolutions, memorials, etc., for the purpose of taking up for consideration the bill to provide payment for horses lost in the service.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Foote, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McClung's battery;

which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Foote moved that the rule be suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee.

The motion prevailed, and the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. H. W. Bruce presented certain resolutions adopted by a convention of Kentucky soldiers and refugees at Dalton, Ga., on the 20th January, 1864; which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. H. W. Bruce offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Medical Department be instructed to inquire into the propriety and practicability of establishing neutral hospitals at the most

important prison depots in the Confederate States and the United States, under such rules and regulations as may be agreed on between the commissioners for the exchange of prisoners of the respective Governments, permitting surgeons of one Government to remain at such prison depots in the other.

Mr. Chilton presented the memorial of certain members of Battle's brigade, Alabama troops, asking Congress to grant them the privilege of reorganization and reelection of officers, without consolidating regiments or companies, or in any way disturbing the identity of the same; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Heiskell presented the proceedings of a meeting of part of the directors of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, held at Jonesboro on the 25th January, 1864; which were referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments and Military Transportation.

Mr. Foster presented the memorial of J. E. Johnson, asking compensation for the loss of his steamboat, the William B. Terry (captured by the enemy); which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Boyce presented the memorial of Captain Hewetson, asking relief in relation to certain money captured by the enemy; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, the memorial of the Press Association of the Confederate States of America, asking that editors may be exempt from conscription; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill for the establishment and equalization of grades of officers of the Navy of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Curry presented the petition of officers of the Tenth Alabama Regiment, asking that officers of war regiments be placed on the same footing as to transportation on furlough with officers of twelve months' regiments; which was referred to the Committee on the Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments.

Mr. Machen presented the petition of Lewis L. Youell, of Kentucky, asking that compensation be allowed to the officers and men of Corbin's and Lessie's companies, Kentucky troops, for their horses, arms, accouterments, and clothing (captured by the enemy); which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Foote introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the First Tennessee Regiment; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Strickland presented joint resolutions of the Georgia legislature, requesting the passage of a law giving detailed soldiers the same pay as other persons employed in the same business; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 27. Joint resolution of thanks to North Carolina troops; and

S. 28. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops from the State of Louisiana in the Army of Tennessee.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Strickland presented the petition of detailed soldiers in the shoe factory at Richmond, asking increased compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

row, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Goode, Heiskell, Hilton, Ingram, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Martin, McLean, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the motion to adjourn prevailed, and

The House adjourned until to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the House to tax, fund, and limit the currency; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

On motion of Mr. Boyce, the bill and amendments were referred to the Special Committee on the Currency and the amendments ordered to be printed.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill to authorize the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus.

Mr. Pugh submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

Whereas a portion of each of the Confederate States has been invaded and occupied by the armies of the United States, and it is manifest that they are preparing for the invasion of, and if possible to subjugate the remainder; and

Whereas instances of submission to the power of the enemy, and adherence to their Government and cause, have occurred in the Confederate States, and of aid and comfort being rendered to them by citizens thereof; and

Whereas it is known to be a settled purpose of the enemy to incite insurrection among our slaves, and to encourage rebellion against the Confederate Government by disloyal persons in the Confederate States: Therefore,

The Congress of the Confederate States do enact, That until sixty days after the meeting of the next Congress, the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus be, and is hereby, suspended in the following cases in the Confederate States:

In all cases in which a person shall be in custody upon a charge or suspicion founded upon reasonable or probable cause supported by affidavit—

1. Treason. 2. Misprision of treason. 3. Treasonable or unlawful intercourse with the public enemy. 4. Acts affording aid and comfort to the public enemy in prosecution of the war. 5. Aiding or inciting insurrection of slaves. 6. Aiding or inciting rebellion against the constituted authorities of the Confederate States. 7. Resisting by force the lawful performance of his duty any officer authorized to execute the law subjecting persons to military service in the Confederate Army. 8. Harboring any deserter, or encouraging desertion from the Confederate Army, or resisting by force or otherwise the arrest of any deserter. 9. In all cases where the person is arrested as a spy. 10. In all cases in which a person within the conscript age and not expressly exempted by law (which facts shall be distinctly set forth in the petition for the said writ) is in custody or is held by virtue of any enrollment for or enlistment or engagement in the Army or Navy of the Confederate States, or who, being subject to the rules and articles of war, is confined by one legally acting by authority thereof, or in which a person being arrested as a fugitive from justice is held in custody to be delivered up to the authority of the State from which he has escaped.

Mr. Baldwin submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Pugh:

Strike out the whole thereof and insert the following:

"SECTION 1. It shall be a sufficient answer to the writ of habeas corpus in any case that the party in whose behalf it is issued is held in custody by virtue of a warrant from the President of the Confederate States for reasons affecting the public safety.

"SEC. 2. Upon issuing any such warrant, the President shall cause the reasons and the evidence upon which his action is founded to be filed, in writing, in the Department of State.

"SEC. 3. The President shall send to Congress at the beginning of each session a list showing the name, residence, time of arrest, and place of confinement of each person arrested and confined for reasons affecting the public safety, and upon the call of either House shall communicate the reasons and the evidence upon which such arrest and confinement have been founded."

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the bill by inserting after the word "persons" the following, viz:

who are in, or by law are liable to be in, the military service of the Confederate States of America, or who are under oath charged with or suspected, on reasonable grounds, of being an alien enemy, or of having committed or designing to commit some act or offense calculated to impair the discipline of the Army, to give aid and comfort to the enemy, to excite rebellion or insurrection, or to interfere with the successful prosecution of the war: *Provided*, That no order of arrest or detention under this act shall be issued except by the President, the Secretary of War, or in the Trans-Mississippi Department by some general officer.

SEC. 2. That every order of arrest or detention under this act shall be in writing, signed by the officer making the same, and shall set forth the grounds on which the same is made.

SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the President to appoint a sufficient number of commissioners charged with investigating the cases of all persons who may be arrested or detained under this act, in order that if improperly detained they may be speedily discharged.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the bill by inserting between sections 1 and 2 the following, viz:

It is hereby declared that the purpose of Congress in the passage of this act is to provide more effectually for the public safety by the restraint of persons even when the proof is not complete and when the ordinary process of law is insufficient for the public safety, in the following cases and no others:

- I. Of treason, misprision of treason, and insurrection.
- II. Of conspiracies to overthrow the Government or resist the lawful authority of the Confederate States.
- III. Of conspiracies, preparations, and attempts to incite servile insurrection.
- IV. Of desertions, of harboring deserters, and of attempts to avoid military service.
- V. Of spies and other emissaries of the enemy.
- VI. Of holding correspondence or intercourse with the enemy without necessity and without the permission of the Confederate States.
- VII. Of unlawful trading with the enemy and other offenses against the laws of the Confederate States enacted to promote their success in the war.
- VIII. Of conspiracies and attempts to liberate prisoners of war held by the Confederate States.
- IX. Of conspiracies, attempts, and preparations to aid the enemy.
- X. Of persons advising or inciting others to resist the Confederate States or to adhere to the enemy.

Mr. Preston moved to recommit the bill and amendments to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions to report a bill enumerating or limiting and defining the cases to which the bill will apply.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the motion of Mr. Preston by striking out the instructions and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

With instructions—

1. To limit its operation to cases of arrest or imprisonment for offenses committed or attempted against the laws of the Confederate States, specifying such offenses with reasonable certainty.

2. To provide against the use of negro testimony against any citizen or soldier of the Confederate States, and to require a record to be kept of the testimony upon which any arrest by Government authority is founded, so that the same shall be accessible to Congress.

3. To guard against any inference that the Government of the Confederate States claims or proposes to exercise the right to hinder the calling or assembling of a sovereign State convention in any State of the Confederacy, or to influence or coerce the action of any such convention by the strong hand.

Mr. Clark moved the previous question; which was seconded.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin to the motion of Mr. Preston to recommit the bill and amendments,

Mr. Baldwin demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	11
{ Nays	58

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Jones, Martin, Simpson, and Smith of Alabama.

Nays: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Preston,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Russell,

Mr. Gray demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	57
{ Nays	18

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Heiskell, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McRae, Perkins, Ralls, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Conrad,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin to the amendment of Mr. Pugh,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Pugh,

Mr. Hanly demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas	26
{ Nays	52

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Foote, Funsten, Garland, Hanly, Hartridge, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Dar-

gan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill having been engrossed and read a third time,

Mr. Singleton called the question; which was ordered.

The question being put,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Gartrell demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas..... 59 [58]
 { Nays..... 19 [20]

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Bridgers, Clopton, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Foote, Gaither, Garland, Hanly, Holder, Jones, Martin, Menees, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, and Smith of North Carolina.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Singleton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the title of the bill by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof as follows, viz:

A bill to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 169. An act to repeal an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved April 30, 1863; and

S. 182. An act to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Clark,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Duncan.

Mr. Foster offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That Major-General Cadmus M. Wilcox be, and he is hereby, tendered the privilege of a seat in this House during his stay in the city, and the Speaker of this House is requested to inform him of the passage of this resolution.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 26. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Florida troops;

H. R. 22. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and men under his command for distinguished services at Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, November 27, 1863;

H. R. 27. Joint resolution of thanks to the division commanded by Major-General Rodas; and

H. R. 28. Joint resolution of thanks to Brig. Gen. S. D. Ramseur's brigade of North Carolina troops for tendering their services for the war.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury; which was read as follows, viz:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
Richmond, February 4, 1864.

Hon. THOS. S. BOCKOCK,

Speaker of House of Representatives, Confederate States of America.

SIR: In answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives, adopted on 9th ultimo, asking what progress has been made by this Department in collecting the tax imposed by the first section of the tax act of last session, and the amount of same assessed and collected in the cities of Richmond, Augusta, and Mobile, I have the honor to submit herewith a report of the commissioner of taxes, giving the desired information.

I am, very respectfully,

C. G. MEMMINGER,
Secretary of Treasury.

The communication and accompanying document were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 215) to amend an act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi, approved January 27, 1864; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee having been suspended, it was read a third time and passed.

The House then resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill of the Senate (S. 204) to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war.

Mr. Clark moved that the consideration of the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays thereon:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 31
Nays ----- 30

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Garland, Gartrell, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Machen, McLean, Munnerlyn, Preston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Heiskell, Holcombe, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Martin, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Villeré, and Wilcox.

So the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 208) to provide compensation for officers who may heretofore have performed staff duty under orders of their superior officers, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 161) to repeal an act entitled "An act to regulate the destruction of property under military necessity, and to provide for the indemnity thereof," reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Conrad moved that the consideration of the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Chambers demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 54
Nays----- 16 [17]

Yeas: Arrington, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Ashe, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chambers, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Holder, Ingram, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Wilcox.

So the motion to postpone indefinitely prevailed.

Mr. Wilcox, from the same committee, to whom had been referred

A bill to authorize the President to appoint quartermasters and commissaries to armies, corps, and divisions, and to fix their rank, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was engrossed and read a third time.

And the question being put,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Ewing demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And are recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas- --- 33
 } Nays ----- 34

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Conrad, De Jarnette, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Goode, Graham, Heiskell, Hilton, Holcombe, Johnston, Lyon, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Mannerlyn, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Staples, Swan, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clop-ton, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Hartridge, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Vest, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was lost.

Mr. Chambers, from the same committee, to whom had been referred

A bill to repeal the laws allowing commutation for forage, fuel, room rent, etc., not actually used or needed by officers of the Army, and for other purposes,

reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with sundry amendments.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The first amendment of the committee was read and agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 1, line 5, after the word "else," insert the words "not actually needed for his own personal use."

Mr. Baldwin moved to recommit the bill and amendments to the Committee on Military Affairs; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Barksdale, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Tenth Mississippi Regiment; which was read a first and second time.

The rule having been suspended requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee, it was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 3d instant the President approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 93. An act entitled "An act to organize a Treasury note bureau;" also

H. R. 97. An act entitled "An act to authorize the President to assign judges of military courts from one court to another."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., February 6, 1864.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of this House (H. R. 90) to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864, with sundry amendments; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have passed the following bills, viz:

S. 210. A bill to aid any State in communicating with and perfecting records concerning its troops; and

S. 218. A bill to amend the act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war," approved March 20, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 5, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 25th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War relative to the steps taken to carry out the provisions of the act of Congress "relative to the arrest and disposition of slaves who have been recaptured from the enemy."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 5, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit communications from the Secretaries of the Treasury and of War, which convey the information asked for in your resolution of the 13th ultimo, relative to the amount of money forwarded to the Trans-Mississippi Department since the adjournment of Congress, and to the adjustment of claims against the Government for articles illegally impressed and not paid for at the time.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House

H. R. 90. A bill to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864;

which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The bill and amendments were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Curry, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session, and

On motion of Mr. Machen,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock Monday.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a bill of the following title:

S. 182. An act to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use.

And the Speaker signed the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 209) to establish a bureau of foreign supplies; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 209) to establish a bureau of foreign supplies; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Curry moved that the special orders be postponed to enable him to make a report from the Special Committee on the Exchange of Prisoners.

Mr. Dupré called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Heiskell demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to postpone prevailed.

Mr. Curry, by consent, from the Special Committee on the Exchange of Prisoners, to whom had been referred

A joint resolution in reference to the exchange of prisoners, with sundry amendments, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Curry, from the same committee, reported

A joint resolution in reference to the exchange of prisoners, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the joint resolution and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Perkins, from the same committee, submitted a minority report, and an amendment to the joint resolution (in the nature of a substitute); which was read as follows, viz:

Whereas during the present war the Confederate Government has always desired to observe the humane practice of exchanging prisoners according to the usage of modern warfare between civilized nations, and, in order to obtain the consent of the enemy to a cartel of exchange, has repeatedly submitted to inconvenience and injustice, resulting from the enemy's violation of agreements and refusal to make others whenever equitable exchanges were supposed to their disadvantage; and

Whereas during the last few months the enemy having, by the fortune of war, obtained a greater number of captives than he has lost, has again, upon various pretexts, interrupted the practice of exchange under the existing cartel and has indicated that such practice is not to be resumed unless our slaves and other negroes captured by the Confederate armies be admitted to equal privileges and exchanged man for man with white men as prisoners of war, notwithstanding such slaves and other negroes have been armed and employed in war against their masters, with the avowed purpose of emancipating all negro slaves and of protecting them in insurrection; and

Whereas the enemy has recently appointed Major-General Benjamin F. Butler agent to negotiate an exchange, notwithstanding the said Butler had, long before his appointment, been denounced in a proclamation of the President of the Confederate States as a felon, deserving death, and not entitled, if captured, to the treatment due to prisoners of war, but to be put to death by hanging whenever captured, because of his many lawless barbarities toward citizens of the Confederate States who had fallen under his power; and

Whereas the President has declined to recognize the said Butler as such agent of exchange, and Congress is informed that the enemy, in order to compel such recognition, has collected a great number of the prisoners in his possession and placed them under the command of said Butler so as to make it appear from all the circumstances that the said Butler was appointed not with a view to facilitate exchanges of prisoners on fair and equitable terms and in accordance with the cartel, but rather to interpose a new obstacle and to dishonor this Confederacy by forcing its admission of said Butler to the privileges accorded to an agent of exchange in a manner to dishonor our Government without procuring the release of our gallant, patriotic, and unhappy fellow-citizens now confined in the prisons of the enemy:

The Congress of the Confederate States do resolve:

1. That the action of the President in the premises is approved.
2. Congress feels the deepest sympathy with the prisoners held by the enemy, and assures them that this Government will not omit the use of any means to procure their release which may be consistent with the safety and honor of their country.
3. That until such honorable release can be secured Congress trusts to the endurance and fortitude of our noble and unfaltering soldiers now confined in Northern prisons and to the gallantry of our soldiers on the field to bring about an exchange consistent with the honor and glory of our country.

Mr. Singleton called the question.

Mr. Foote demanded the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Perkins,

Mr. Heiskell demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 18
 { Nays ----- 50

Yeas: Baldwin, Chilton, Conrow, Dupré, Elliott, Gartrell, Heiskell, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Swan, and Vest.

Nays: Arrington, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, Welsh, Wilcox, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

The question recurring on ordering the joint resolution to be engrossed and read a third time,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The joint resolution having been engrossed and read a third time,

Mr. Curry called the question; which was ordered.

The question being put,

Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. Heiskell demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 53
 { Nays ----- 15

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartbridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Villeré, Welsh, and Wilcox.

Nays: Baldwin, Clark, Conrow, Dupré, Elliott, Gartrell, Heiskell, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McRae, Miller, Perkins, Swan, and Vest.

So the joint resolution was passed.

Mr. Curry moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Heiskell rose to a privileged question, and submitted a paper; which was read as follows, viz:

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: The action of the House on the subject of exchange of prisoners having been such as I can not approve, and this without any prospect of bringing about any arrangement for exchange, but in my belief with a direct tendency to prevent the very object we profess to desire, I beg leave to tender to this House the resignation of the seat I hold therein.

Very respectfully,

J. B. HEISKELL.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for

the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863, and resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the same, Mr. McRae in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had the matter referred to them under consideration and had come to no conclusion thereon.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Machen,

Resolved itself into open session

FIFTY-THIRD DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

Mr. Sexton offered the following resolutions; which were unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That this House has heard with deep sorrow of the sudden death in this city, on yesterday morning, of the Honorable John A. Wilcox, one of its members from the State of Texas.

Resolved, That in testimony of respect for his memory the members of this House will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days, and will attend his funeral in a body at one o'clock to-day.

Resolved, That a committee of six be appointed to arrange for the funeral ceremonies.

Resolved, That the Speaker communicate these resolutions and proceedings to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be communicated to the Senate.

Pursuant to the third resolution,

The Speaker appointed the committee of arrangements as follows, viz:

Mr. Graham of Texas, Mr. Pugh of Alabama, Mr. Hartridge of Georgia, Mr. Welsh of Mississippi, Mr. Dupré of Louisiana, and Mr. Goode of Virginia.

Mr. Sexton also offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Pursuant to the last resolution,

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

FIFTY-FOURTH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 218) to amend the act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war;" which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 210) to aid any State in communicating with and perfecting records concerning its troops; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Preston moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill of the Senate (S. 204) to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war, was indefinitely postponed.

The House resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of Saturday: which was the joint resolution for the relief of Mary C. Morgan, John McKown, and Samuel McKown; which, on motion of Mr. Clapp, was laid upon the table.

Mr. Clapp, from the Committee on Claims, reported back

A bill to authorize payments for property destroyed and injured by reason of military necessities, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp, from the same committee, also reported back the memorials of A. K. Shepard, of Perry County, Ala.; Henry Miller, of Greenbrier County, Va.; A. Mahood, of Mercer County, Va.; James M. Avent, Lewis A. Phelps, and Jeff. Broadwater, William Waller, Murray & Co., John R. Cardwell, Captain Brown, the administrator of W. S. Smith, James A. Wright, W. E. Persons, and R. R. Pickering, all asserting claims against the Government, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Clapp, from the same committee, reported

A bill to provide for the auditing and payment of certain claims against the Confederate States:

which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed upon the Calendar, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clapp, from the same committee, also submitted a written report; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Lyon, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 96. A bill to authorize the issue of certificates for interest on the fifteen million loan.

The Senate have agreed to the amendment of this House to the joint resolution of the Senate (S. 22) entitled "A joint resolution for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi."

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 3d instant, approve and sign the following joint resolution and bill, viz:

S. 25. Joint resolution of thanks to the Tennessee troops who have reenlisted for the war; and

S. 144. An act to change the time for the assembling of Congress for its next regular session.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 6th instant the President approved and signed the following joint resolutions and acts:

H. R. 24. A joint resolution entitled "Joint resolution of thanks to the Alabama troops who have reenlisted for the war;"

H. R. 26. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Florida troops;

H. R. 27. Joint resolution of thanks to the division commanded by Major-General Rodas;

H. R. 28. Joint resolution of thanks to Brig. Gen. S. D. Ransour's brigade of North Carolina troops for tendering their services for the war;

H. R. 79. An act to prohibit dealing in the paper currency of the enemy; and

H. R. 99. An act to authorize commanders of corps and departments to detail field officers as members of military courts under certain circumstances.

On the 8th instant the President approved and signed

H. R. 19. Joint resolution of thanks to Captain Odium, Lieutenant Dowling, and the men under their command.

On the same day the President also signed

H. R. 8. Joint resolution of thanks to Col. Thomas G. Lamar and the officers and men of his command in the defense of Secessionville; and

H. R. 23. Joint resolution of thanks to General Beauregard and the officers and men of his command for their defense of Charleston, S. C.

The President has to-day approved and signed

H. R. 22. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne and the officers and men under his command for distinguished services at Ringgold Gap, in the State of Georgia, November 27, 1863.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 9, 1864.*

On motion of Mr. Hilton.

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

And having reassembled.

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to whom had been referred the bill of the House (H. R. 90) to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the House concur in the amendments of the Senate with an amendment.

The first amendment of the Senate was read and concurred in as follows, viz:

In line 73, page 3, after the word "department," strike out all down to and including "dollars," in line 76, and insert as follows:

"For pay of officers and privates of the Army, volunteers, militia, etc., seventy-three million eight hundred and three thousand five hundred and fifty-one dollars.

"For the service of the Quartermaster's Department, one hundred and sixty-two million eighty-one thousand five hundred and forty-four dollars."

The second amendment of the Senate was read as follows, viz:

Strike out the words in the seventy-seventh, seventy-eighth, and seventy-ninth lines and insert as follows:

"For pay of officers, their fuel and quarters, laborers, employees, and agents, hire of teamsters, rent of offices, material, labor and building storehouses, and incidental expenses required to collect and preserve the tax in kind, from July first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, five million three hundred and thirteen thousand two hundred and four dollars.

"For railroad transportation of the articles collected under the tax in kind, one million five hundred thousand dollars.

"For grain bags to be used for transportation of the grain collected under the tax in kind, three million two hundred and forty thousand dollars."

The committee moved to amend by inserting at the end of the second amendment of the Senate the following, viz:

For purchase of wagons, teams, and equipments, two million one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.

The amendment of the committee was agreed to.

The amendment of the Senate, as amended, was agreed to.

The third amendment of the Senate was read and concurred in as follows, viz:

Strike out "for the pay of the officers," etc., in line 100, page 3, down to and including the word "dollars," in line 105, page 4.

The fourth amendment of the Senate was read as follows, viz:

After line 294, page 9, insert the following:

"For loss of slaves which have been impressed by the Confederate authorities and while engaged in laboring on the public defenses have escaped to the enemy, or died, or contracted diseases which have, after their discharge, resulted fatally, three million one hundred and eight thousand dollars."

Mr. Russell moved to amend the last amendment of the Senate by inserting after the word "authorities" the words "or under State laws for the use of the Confederate Government."

The amendment was agreed to, and the amendment of the Senate, as amended, was also agreed to.

Mr. Hilton moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to offer a resolution.

Pending which,

The House, on motion of Mr. Atkins, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Davidson moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill to authorize the President to appoint quartermasters and commissaries to armies, corps, and divisions, and to fix their rank, was lost.

The House,

On motion of Mr. Hilton,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 194) to organize bodies for the capture and destruction of the enemy's property, by land or sea, and to authorize compensation for the same, [reported back the same,] with the recommendation that it do pass.

Mr. Baldwin moved to lay the bill on the table to enable him to make a report from the Special Committee on the Currency.

On which motion Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 13
 } Nays ----- 51

Yeas: Baldwin, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Foster, Funsten, Hartridge, Jones, Lander, Lyon, McLean, and Miller.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion did not prevail.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the bill by adding to the end of the last section the words "payable in four per cent bonds."

Mr. Miles moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Conrad,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on ordering the bill to a third reading,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill having been read a third time, and the question being put,

Shall the bill pass?

It was decided in the affirmative.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

The House then resumed the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863.

Having resolved itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering said bill, Mr. McRae in the chair; and having spent some time therein, the committee rose and reported, through their Chairman, that they had had the matter referred to them under consideration, and recommended that the bill do pass with sundry amendments.

Mr. Jones moved the previous question.

On ordering the main question,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 41
 { Nays ----- 17

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clopton, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Ashe, Bell, Chilton, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Foster, Graham, Gray, Johnston, Lyons, Martin, McQueen, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Smith of North Carolina.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the main question was ordered.

The amendments of the Committee of the Whole were read and agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 10, line 6, after the word "sorghum," insert the words "where more than thirty gallons are made."

In section 10, line 13, after the words "as soon as," insert the words "each of."

In same section, line 48, strike out the word "one" and insert in lieu thereof the word "two."

In same section, line 51, after the word "plant," insert the words "straw of wheat, rye, oats, rice, or barley, or of the stalks and shucks of his corn crop."

In same section, line 53, strike out the word "fifty" and insert in lieu thereof the word "fifteen," and in line 54, after the word "cotton," insert the words "for each member of the family."

In same section, line 62, after the word "kind," insert the words "after they have been estimated as aforesaid."

In same section, line 66, strike out the word "eight" and insert in lieu thereof the word "fifteen."

In same section, lines 68 and 69, strike out the words "fifty per cent more than" and insert in lieu thereof the words "five times."

In same section, line 70, after the word "prescribed," insert "*Provided*, That post

quartermasters may direct such delivery to be made at any time within eight months after the date of said estimates, under the sanction of the penalty aforesaid, and that producers shall be paid the expenses of the transportation of their tithes from the place of production to the place of delivery, at the usual rates of compensation paid by the Government in the State in which the delivery is made. Such delivery when required to be made of grain in bushels shall be made in bushels according to the Government standard of weight per bushel."

In same section, line 83, strike out the words "and the additional fifty per cent" and insert in lieu thereof the words "and the increase."

In section 11, line 10, strike out the words "and each year thereafter."

In section 12, line 38, strike out the word "wool."

In section 12, lines 40 and 41, after the word "prescribe," insert the words "the wool collected under this act shall be retained by the Quartermaster's Department as supplies."

In section 12, line 55, after the word "practicable," add the following: "and when, in districts heretofore or which may hereafter be ascertained to be so impracticable, quartermasters or commissaries serving with troops in the field shall have collected or may hereafter collect from producers any portion of their tax in kind, the receipts of such officers shall be held good to the producers against the collection of the money value of their tax to the extent and value of such portions as may have been or may be hereafter collected; and when assessments in practicable localities have been made and transferred to post quartermasters, and transportation is difficult to be obtained, the supply of grain sacks insufficient, or the amount of produce receivable is too small to justify the expenses of collection, post quartermasters, with approval of their superior officers, shall be authorized to transfer the estimates to district collectors, to be collected in their money value only."

In section 13, lines 6 and 7, strike out the words "shall be at least one assessor appointed for each" and insert in lieu thereof the words "may be one assessor appointed for each practicable."

In same section, line 14, strike out the words "allowed by law to assessors of the money tax" and insert in lieu thereof the words "for such time as they may be employed, as is allowed to other agents of the Quartermaster's Department."

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was passed.

The title of the bill having been read and agreed to,

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the consideration of the next special order be postponed to enable him to make a report from the Special Committee on the Currency.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Baldwin, from the Special Committee on the Currency, to whom had been referred the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency, which had been returned from the Senate with amendments, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the House refuse to concur in the amendments of the Senate.

The amendments of the Senate having been read as follows, viz:

1. After the enacting clause strike out the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth sections of the bill and insert as follows:

"That no Treasury note outstanding at the time of the passage of this act shall be receivable in payment of public dues or fundable after the first day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, east of the Mississippi River, or after the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, west of the Mississippi River; but until the privilege of funding is taken away, as above prescribed, all Treasury notes outstanding as aforesaid shall be fundable in registered bonds payable twenty years after their date and bearing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, payable semiannually, and the said four per cent bonds shall never be taxed by the Confederate States, in principal or interest, and all holders of bonds or stock of the Confederate States, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, or more, shall be allowed to exchange the same at par for the said four per cent bonds.

"SEC. 2. That, after the passage of this act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall proceed to issue notes to be denominated exchequer notes, to the amount of two hundred and fifty millions of dollars, which shall be payable two years after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States, and receivable in payment of all public dues except the export duty on cotton and such other dues as may be declared by law payable in specie only; and the said notes may be converted into call certificates, the said certificates to bear interest at the rate of three per cent per annum and to be reconvertible into exchequer notes at the pleasure of the holder. And the faith of the Government is hereby pledged that the issue of said exchequer notes and call certificates shall not exceed the amount of two hundred and fifty millions of dollars; but the Secretary of the Treasury may, at his discretion, reissue said exchequer notes or replace them with new notes so long as the whole sum outstanding shall not be increased thereby beyond the limits herein prescribed: *Provided*, That said exchequer notes shall not be fundable at the pleasure of the holder.

"SEC. 3. That all call certificates outstanding at the time of the passage of this act shall cease to be reconvertible after the first day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, east of the Mississippi River, and after the first day of August, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, west of the Mississippi River, and all call certificates not reconverted within the periods and at the places above prescribed shall be deemed and considered four per cent bonds, payable twenty years after the date of the passage of this act, the interest payable semiannually: *Provided*, That this section shall not be construed to apply to eight per cent convertible bonds.

"SEC. 4. That any holder of Treasury notes depositing said notes for the purpose of funding them, in compliance with the provision of this act, shall be allowed to receive one-tenth of the amount so deposited in the new issue of exchequer notes hereinbefore provided for, and the residue, or nine-tenths, in said four per cent bonds, as aforesaid.

"SEC. 5. That if any bank of deposit shall give its depositors the said four per cent bonds in exchange for their deposits and specify the same on the bonds by some distinctive mark or token, to be agreed upon with the Secretary of the Treasury, then the said depositors shall be entitled to receive the amount of said bonds in Treasury notes bearing no interest and outstanding at the passage of this act: *Provided*, That the said bonds are presented before the privilege of funding said notes shall cease, as hereinbefore prescribed.

"SEC. 6. That after the passage of this act all authority heretofore given to the Secretary of the Treasury to issue Treasury notes shall be, and is hereby, revoked; and all acts and parts of acts are hereby repealed so far as they may conflict with the provisions of this act: *Provided, however*, That the Secretary of the Treasury may reissue Treasury notes until the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, but no longer: *And provided further*, That nothing contained in this act shall be construed to apply to Treasury notes of a denomination less than five dollars, which have been or may be issued according to law.

"SEC. 7. That all Treasury notes heretofore issued of the denomination of five dollars shall continue to be receivable in payment of the public dues, as now provided by law, and fundable under the provisions of this act until the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, east of the Mississippi River, and until the first day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, west of the Mississippi River, but after that time they shall not be receivable or fundable.

"SEC. 8. That any State of the Confederacy which may hold Treasury notes shall have the privilege of funding the same, under the provisions of this act, until the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, east of the Mississippi River, and until the first day of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, west of the Mississippi River, and shall, until the periods aforesaid, be entitled to the one-tenth of exchequer notes, as provided in the fourth section of this act.

"SEC. 9. That Treasury notes heretofore issued, bearing interest at the rate of seven dollars and thirty cents on the hundred dollars per annum, shall no longer be receivable in payment of the public dues, but shall be deemed and considered bonds of the Confederate States, payable two years after the ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States, bearing the rate of interest specified on their face, payable on the first day of January of each and every year: *Provided*, That the holder of said notes shall be allowed at any time to exchange the same for the four per cent bonds mentioned in the first section of this act.

"SEC. 10. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized, in case the exigencies of the Government should require it, to pay the demand of any public creditor, whose debt may be contracted after the passage of this act, willing to receive the same, in a certificate of indebtedness, to be issued by said Secretary in

such form as he may deem proper, payable two years after the ratification of a treaty of peace with the United States, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semiannually, and transferable only by special indorsement, under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and said certificate shall be exempt from taxation in principal and interest.

"SEC. 11. That all payments on account of contracts with the Government, made prior to the passage of this act and to be executed in the Confederate States, and payable in money, shall be paid until the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, east of the Mississippi River, and until first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, west of the Mississippi River, in Treasury notes, or nine-tenths thereof in the four per cent bonds mentioned in the first section of this act, and the remaining one-tenth in exchequer notes, at the option of the creditor; but, after the periods and at the places above prescribed, such payments shall be made exclusively in said four per cent bonds and exchequer notes in the proportions above described: *Provided*, That installments on account of contracts for carrying the mails, which may become due after the first day of May next, shall be paid in exchequer notes only: *And provided further*, That the interest on all public securities, the pay of officers of the Army and Navy, and of soldiers and seamen, and the salaries and compensation of all officers and employees of the Government, in all its departments, shall be paid in exchequer notes.

"SEC. 12. To defray the expenses of the Government, not otherwise provided for, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to issue six per cent bonds to an amount not exceeding five hundred millions of dollars, the principal and interest whereof shall be free from taxation during the war; and for the payment of the interest thereon the entire net receipts of any export duty hereafter laid on the value of all cotton, tobacco, and naval stores which shall be exported from the Confederate States, and the net proceeds of the import duties now laid, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay annually the interest, are hereby specially pledged: *Provided*, That the duties now laid upon imports and hereby pledged shall hereafter be paid in specie or sterling exchange or in the coupons of said bonds: *And provided*, Said duties may be paid in exchequer notes until the Secretary of the Treasury shall publish that fifteen millions of said bonds have been sold.

"SEC. 13. The Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to sell or hypothecate, from time to time, for exchequer notes, so many of the bonds specified in the twelfth section of this act as may be necessary to meet the wants of the Treasury."

II. Strike out all of the tenth section of the bill after the word "date," in the thirteenth line.

III. Strike out the eleventh section.

IV. Strike out, in section 14, lines 1 and 2, the words "the issue of the Treasury notes, except as herein provided for, is hereby prohibited, and."

V. Amend the title so as to read: "An act to provide for the issue of exchequer notes, and for funding all Treasury notes now outstanding,"

Mr. Foster moved to amend the amendments of the Senate by striking out the whole and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That all Treasury notes issued previous to the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, or that may hereafter be issued previous to the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, may be convertible, at the pleasure of the holder, into Confederate bonds bearing interest at the rate of two per cent per annum, the interest payable semiannually in gold and silver, this privilege to extend to the holders of Treasury notes until six months after the approval of this act; but after that period Treasury notes may not be convertible into bonds bearing a greater interest than one per cent per annum, the interest payable in gold and silver semiannually.

SEC. 2. That all Treasury notes issued subsequently to the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, under the provisions of this act shall have the guaranty of such of the Confederate States as have been or may hereafter be made, in the first place, applied to the Treasury notes that may be issued subsequently to the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and such guaranty shall protect the notes issued subsequent to the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to the exclusion of all other Treasury notes.

SEC. 3. That in lieu of all other authority to issue Treasury notes heretofore granted to the Secretary of the Treasury he shall be authorized to issue annually during the present war an amount [not] exceeding millions of dollars of such notes, payable six months after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States. They shall be in such form and in such denominations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, and each note shall specify

the month of its issue, the issue to commence on the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four. The authority hereby given to the Secretary of the Treasury to issue Treasury notes shall cease on the meeting of the first Congress after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the Confederate States and the United States.

SEC. 4. That all notes issued under the provisions of this act shall be receivable in payment of all public dues, including export duties.

SEC. 5. That the holders of Treasury notes issued subsequently to the first day of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, may at any time convert the same into Confederate bonds bearing interest at the rate of two per cent per annum, the interest payable semiannually in gold and silver, which bonds shall be secured by the guaranties of the several States in the same manner that the notes given for such bonds were guaranteed, so that the conversion of such notes into bonds shall not impair the security that was afforded to the holder of such guaranty.

SEC. 6. That a tax of five per cent a month be levied on all outstanding Treasury notes issued previous to the first of March, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, and such tax shall attach to such notes until presented by the holder for purchase of bonds or in payment of taxes or any dues whatever to Government, and shall be discounted accordingly: *Provided*, That all notes under the denomination of five dollars shall be exempt from this tax.

SEC. 7. All bonds bearing an interest of eight per cent shall be taxed seven per cent per annum, and the same rates shall be observed toward all bonds, except those drawing two per cent interest, which shall be forever exempt from taxation, and such exemption shall be expressed upon the face of the bonds.

SEC. 8. Privilege is hereby granted to all holders of Confederate bonds drawing interest greater than two per cent to convert the same at par into bonds drawing two per cent interest.

SEC. 9. All laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the amendments of the Senate by inserting, in the first section, after the word "dues," the words "or of any private contract or demand."

Mr. Jones moved the previous question.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the main question was not ordered.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Lyons,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Lyons moved to amend the amendments of the Senate by striking out the word "four," in line 9, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "three."

Mr. Atkins called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Lyon moved to amend the amendments of the Senate by striking out the whole of the first section and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

No Treasury note outstanding at the time of the passage of this act shall be receivable in payment of public dues or fundable after the first day of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, east of the Mississippi River, or after the first day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, west of the Mississippi; but until the privilege of funding as above prescribed shall cease all Treasury notes outstanding as aforesaid shall be received in payment of any taxes imposed by the act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, or which may be imposed by any act of the present session of Congress; and in case any tax imposed by either of said acts shall not have been assessed and ascertained by the period stated, it shall be lawful for any taxpayer to deposit in the Treasury or any of its depositories, by the first of May next, east, and by the first of August next, west of the Mississippi River, the supposed amount of his or her tax and receive therefrom a certificate of deposit, to be subsequently applied to the payment of such tax when assessed and ascertained, and any taxpayer so depositing shall be allowed interest at the rate of six per cent per annum on the amount of any such tax from the date of the deposit

up to the assessment and ascertainment of such tax; and from the face of the remainder of all such Treasury notes outstanding as aforesaid not so used in payment of taxes there shall be deducted the tax of twenty-five per cent thereon imposed by the act of the present session of Congress, and also such Treasury notes outstanding as aforesaid at the period stated, after deducting the tax aforesaid, shall be fundable in registered bonds payable twenty years after their date, bearing interest at the rate authorized by the law under which said Treasury notes were issued, payable semiannually or at the option of the holder of said Treasury notes to bear interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, the said four per cent bonds to be in principal and interest exempt from taxation, and said bonds issued under the authority of this section shall be received in payment of any tax imposed by the act of the twenty-fourth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, or by any tax law of the present session of Congress.

Mr. Russell submitted the following amendment to the amendments of the Senate:

Insert between the second and third sections the following:

"The taxes in kind for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four shall be one-fifth instead of one-tenth of the subjects thereof as heretofore imposed, but each farmer and planter may for that year reserve twice the amount heretofore authorized to be reserved of any crop, and no property shall hereafter be impressed at the prices fixed by any of the boards of commissioners under the act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, unless such prices correspond with the market prices at the times and places of impressment.

"The tax in kind of any crop for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four may be commuted, at the option of the taxpayer, by the payment of four-fifths of the assessed value thereof to the proper collector, in specie or exchequer notes, within days from the time of the assessment of such value according to law; and such value shall be assessed according to the market value in exchequer notes. But the tax in kind of bacon shall not be so commuted."

Mr. Jones moved that further consideration of the subject be postponed until Saturday next.

Mr. Hilton called the question.

Mr. Swan moved the previous question.

On ordering the main question.

Mr. Chilton demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas.....	45
{ Nays	20

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Crockett, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Hart-ridge, Holder, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Singleton, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Bell, Chilton, Conrad, De Jarnette, Foster, Graham, Gray, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Lyons, McRae, Miller, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, and Strickland.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the main question was ordered.

Mr. Preston moved to reconsider the vote by which the main question was ordered.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on ordering the main question,

It was decided in the negative.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Atkins, resolved itself into open session.

Being again in secret session, and the question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Lyon,

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Lyon demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 39
 } Nays 24

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Elliott, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hilton, Holder, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McDowell, McRae, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Baldwin, Boyce, Clapp, Collier, Crockett, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Hartridge, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Smith of North Carolina, and Swan.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. McRae moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Lyon moved to amend the Senate amendments by striking out, in the second section thereof, the words "shall proceed to issue notes to be denominated exchequer notes" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "shall, as the wants of the Treasury may require, proceed to make a new issue of Treasury notes."

Mr. Menees called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the said section by striking out, in line 7, the words "and such other dues as may be declared by law payable in specie only."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to postpone the consideration of the bill and amendments until Saturday next.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to postpone was lost.

Mr. Russell moved to amend the second section by inserting after the word "holder," in line 11, the words "such exchequer notes shall be payable to the bearer and shall be of any of the denominations heretofore authorized for Treasury notes."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones proposed to amend the amendments of the Senate by inserting between sections 2 and 3 thereof the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government.

The Chair ruled the amendment out of order.

Mr. Conrad appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Menees called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 30
 } Nays 27

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Chambers, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Davidson, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hartridge, Holder, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McRae,

Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bôteler, Bridgers, Chilton, Conrad, Crockett, Dargan, Ewing, Farrow, Graham, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, McLean, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, and Strickland.

So the House sustained the decision of the Chair.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Russell,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Lyon submitted the following amendments; which were agreed to, viz:

In section 4, line 3, after the word "shall," insert the words "after the tax of twenty-five per cent shall have been deducted."

In line 4, of same section, strike out the word "amount" and insert "remainder."

In same section, strike out the words "in said four per cent bonds, as aforesaid," and insert the words "in the bonds authorized to be issued under the first section of this act."

Mr. Graham moved that the House resolve itself into open session. The motion was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved the previous question; which was not ordered.

Mr. Conrad moved to amend the Senate amendments by striking out the remaining sections thereof, from the fourth to the thirteenth, inclusive.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Conrad was agreed to.

Mr. McRae moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Machen called the question; which was ordered.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Gray,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-FIFTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Schon.

The Chair laid before the House the following communications from the President; which, together with the accompanying documents, were laid on the table and ordered to be printed:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 8, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 12th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War relative to the "domestic passport system" now enforced upon citizens traveling in some parts of the Confederate States outside of the lines of the armies

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Also, the following message:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 8, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 12th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, stating that the records of

the War Office "do not show any authority granted to raise troops of conscript age, except in localities where the operation of the conscript law has been suspended, or, from the control of the enemy, it can not be enforced."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 8, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War in response to your resolution of the 15th ultimo, requesting to be informed "by what authority Generals Sam. Jones and Imboden have prohibited transportation of food from the military districts in which they are located to the city of Richmond for private use and consumption."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Chair also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 8, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering a copy of the report by Gen. John S. Williams "of the operations of the forces under his command at Blue Springs, Henderson, and Rheatown, Tenn."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The motion to print the usual number of copies was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Vest, from the Committee on Elections, under a suspension of the rules, reported

A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States of America from the State of Arkansas.

The bill having been read a first and second time, and the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was also agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale, under a suspension of the rules, from the Committee on Printing, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill to authorize the publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States.

The bill having been read a first and second time, and the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Barksdale moved to suspend the rule requiring the bill to be considered in Committee of the Whole; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Ralls moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed, and called the question.

Pending which,

Mr. Jones moved that the House resolve itself into secret session; which motion did not prevail.

The question recurring on the call of the question,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on the motion to postpone indefinitely,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the bill by striking out, in section 2, the words "the copyright being reserved to the compilers."

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Smith by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the words "except for the number of copies herein ordered to be printed."

Pending which,

The House, on motion of Mr. Jones, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, the House again resumed business in open session.

The Calendar having been postponed,

The House again took up the bill to authorize the publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States; which, on motion of Mr. Perkins, was postponed until to-morrow morning.

Mr. Clark, under a suspension of the rules, from the Special Committee on Deceased Soldiers' Claims, reported

A bill to facilitate the settlement of the claims of deceased officers and soldiers;

which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Foster moved that the bill be postponed, placed on the Calendar, printed, and made the special order for Saturday morning next.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Clark, from the same committee, also submitted a written report; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Chambliss, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, under a suspension of the rules, reported back a Senate bill (S. 179) making allowances to officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, under certain circumstances, and to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization of the Navy," approved March 16, 1861, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Miles called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill having been read and agreed to,

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Farrow, from the Committee on the Medical Department, under a suspension of the rules, reported

A bill to provide for increasing the price of the rations for sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals;

which was read a first and second time.

And the question on postponing the bill having been decided in the negative, it was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

Mr. Farrow, from the same committee, reported

A joint resolution to declare the meaning of an act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers;

which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the joint resolution and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The joint resolution was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Miles, the motion of Mr. Preston to reconsider the vote by which the bill to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war, was indefinitely postponed was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Chambliss called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 35
 } Nays ----- 24

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Davidson, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Staples, Swan, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Arrington, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Gartrell, Graham, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on the motion to postpone indefinitely,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Sexton called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on ordering the bill to a third reading,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill having been read a third time,

Mr. Sexton called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 30
 } Nays ----- 28

Yeas: Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Funsten, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Staples, Swan, Vest, and Villeré,

Nays: Ashe, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Gartrell, Graham, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, McDowell, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Sexton called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 32
 } Nays ----- 26

Yeas: Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Crockett, Curry, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gartrell, Graham, Gray, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Jones, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, Pugh, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Davidson, Funsten, Goode, Hanly, Hart-ridge, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, and Swan.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Jones moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Upon which Mr. Ralls demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion was lost.

Mr. Miles moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the motion of Mr. Miles prevailed.

The House having resolved itself into secret session; and spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, the following bill and joint resolution of this House, viz:

H. R. 102. A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts;" and

H. R. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McClung's battery.

The Senate have also passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 29. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops reenlisting for the war from the State of Georgia;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 6th instant, approve and sign the following joint resolutions, viz:

S. 27. Joint resolution of thanks to North Carolina troops; and

S. 28. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops from the State of Louisiana in the Army of Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate insist upon their amendments to the bill of this House (H. R. 75) entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three," ask a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Hill, Mr. Henry, and Mr. Jemison managers on their part at said conference.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill (S. 224) entitled "An act to promote the efficiency of the cavalry of the Provisional Army, and to punish lawlessness and irregularities of any portion thereof;"

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 96. An act to authorize the issue of certificates for interest on the fifteen million loan;

S. 208. An act to provide compensation for officers who may heretofore have performed staff duty under orders of their superior officers;

S. 215. An act to amend an act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi, approved January 27, 1864;

S. 191. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a volunteer navy;" and

S. 22. Joint resolution for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Perkins moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Hartridge moved that the House adjourn; which latter motion prevailed, and

The Chair announced that the House stood adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session, resumed the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

The question being on the motion of Mr. McRae to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Conrad to strike out the amendments of the Senate from 4 to 13, inclusive, was agreed to.

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Conrad,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the first amendment of the Senate, as amended,

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of the Senate was not concurred in.

The second and third amendments of the Senate were not concurred in.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the fourth amendment of the Senate by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

That, in addition to the taxes levied by the act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States, approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, there shall be levied, from the passage of this act, on the subjects of taxation hereafter mentioned, and collected from every person, copartnership, association, or corporation liable therefor, taxes as follows, to wit:

I. Upon the value of property, real, personal, and mixed, of every kind and description, not hereinafter exempted or taxed at a different rate, five per cent: *Provided*, That on all such property within the Confederacy owned by one not a citizen of the Confederate States residing outside of the Confederacy, not in the public service, the tax shall be ten per cent: *And provided*, That from this tax on the value of property employed in agriculture shall be deducted the value of the tax in kind derived therefrom as assessed under the law imposing it, and delivered to the Government; but this deduction shall not reduce the tax on the value of the property below two per cent.

II. On the value of gold and silver wares and plate, jewels, jewelry, and watches, ten per cent.

III. The value of property taxed under this section shall be assessed on the basis of the market value of the same or similar property in the neighborhood where assessed in the year eighteen hundred and sixty.

SEC. 2. I. On the value of wheat, flour, corn, rice, sugar, molasses or sirup, salt, bacon, pork, hogs, beef or beef cattle, sheep, oats, hay, fodder, raw hides, leather, woolen, cotton, or mixed cloths, cotton yarns, hats, shoes, boots, wagons, harness, coal, iron, spirituous liquors, steel, or nails held or owned by any other than the producer, raiser, grower, or manufacturer, and not being necessary and intended for family use or consumption, during the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, twenty per cent: *Provided*, That this tax shall not apply to property acquired and held in the due course of a registered business, and for sale therein.

II. On the value of all cotton, except fifteen pounds of ginned cotton for each member of a family, tobacco and naval stores, held or owned by any other than the producer or grower, twenty per cent; but when held and owned by the producer or grower, ten per cent.

III. On the value of all shares or interests held in any bank, banking company or association, canal, navigation, importing and exporting, insurance, manufacturing, telegraph, express, railroad, and dry-dock companies, and all other joint-stock companies of every kind, whether incorporated or not, five per cent.

IV. The value of property taxed under this section shall be assessed upon the basis of the market value of such property in the neighborhood where assessed, in such currency as may be in general use there in the purchase and sale of such property at the time of assessment.

SEC. 3. Upon the amount of all solvent credits, and of all bank bills, and all other paper used as currency, exclusive of Confederate Treasury notes, five per cent; and on all Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, except interest-bearing Treasury notes, twenty-five per cent.

SEC. 4. Upon profits made in trade and business, as follows:

I. On all profits made by buying and selling spirituous liquors, flour, wheat, corn, rice, sugar, molasses or sirup, salt, bacon, pork, hogs, beef or beef cattle, sheep, oats, hay, fodder, raw hides, leather, horses, mules, boots, shoes, cotton yarns, wool, woolen, cotton, or mixed cloths, hats, wagons, harness, coal, iron, steel, or nails, at any time between the first of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and the first of May, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, thirty-three and one-third per cent.

II. On all profits made by buying and selling money, gold, silver, foreign exchange, stocks, notes, debts, credits, or obligations of any kind, and any merchandise, property, or effects of any kind not enumerated in the preceding paragraph, between the times named therein, twenty per cent.

III. On the amount of profits exceeding twenty-five per cent made during either of the years eighteen hundred and sixty-two, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and eighteen hundred and sixty-four by any bank or banking company, insurance, canal, navigation, importing and exporting, telegraph, express, railroad, manufacturing, dry dock, or other joint-stock company of any description, whether incorporated or not, twenty-five per cent on such excess.

IV. From the taxes imposed on profits, under this section, shall be deducted the amount of tax on incomes assessed and collected on such profits under the act, to which this is additional, of the twenty-fourth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

SEC. 5. The taxation of certain articles of property at a higher rate when held or owned by other than producer, grower, or manufacturer shall not be construed to relieve such property from the tax of five per cent on its value when held or owned by the producer, grower, or manufacturer.

SEC. 6. The following exemptions from taxation under this act shall be allowed, to wit:

I. Property of each head of a family to the value of five hundred dollars, and for each minor child of the family to the further value of one hundred dollars, and for each son actually engaged in the Army or Navy, or who has died or been killed in the military or naval service, and who was a member of the family when he entered the service, to the further value of five hundred dollars.

II. Property of the widow of any officer, soldier, sailor, or marine who has died or been killed in the military or naval service, or where there is no widow, then of the family, being minor children, to the value of two thousand dollars.

III. Property of every officer, soldier, sailor, or marine actually engaged in the military or naval service, or of such as have been disabled in such service, to the value of two thousand dollars.

IV. Property destroyed by or under the control or in the occupancy of the enemy, or of the use or enjoyment of which the owner is and has been for twelve months preceding the passage of this act deprived by the presence or proximity of the enemy, or where there has been a partial destruction or temporary possession by the enemy of property, or injuries done to the same, within the time designated, then the tax upon such property shall be reduced in proportion to the diminished value thereof.

V. The property of and bonds issued by the States of the Confederacy, and the property of municipal corporations held for public purposes, and the property, incomes, and money of hospitals, asylums, churches, schools, academies, and colleges.

SEC. 7. The taxes laid for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four shall be assessed as on the day of the passage of this act and be due and collected on the first of May next, or as soon after as practicable, allowing an extension of ninety days west of the Mississippi River, except such as may accrue on incomes and profits after that time, which shall be due and payable on the thirty-first of December next: *Provided*, That in calculating the tax of five per cent on the value of property employed in agriculture the reduction of three per cent thereof shall be suspended till the value of the tax in kind for eighteen hundred and sixty-four shall be assessed and ascertained.

SEC. 8. So much of the tax act of the twenty-fourth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, as levies a tax on incomes derived from property or effects on the amount or value of which a tax is levied by this act, and also the first section of said act, are suspended for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four.

The Chair submitted to the House the question,
Is the amendment in order?
Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	Y	Yeas.....	38
	N	Nays.....	30

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Conrad, Dargan, Davidson, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, McQueen, Mences, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Ashe, Barksdale, Boyce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, Dupré, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Lander, Lyons, Maehen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Miles, Mummerlyn, Smith of Alabama, Swan, and Vest.

So the House decided the amendment was in order.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of the Senate, as amended,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of the Senate, as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the bill of the Senate to organize forces to serve during the war, as it passed this House; which motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Perkins, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the bills of the Senate entitled

S. 182. An act to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense; and

S. 183. An act to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use.

Mr. Dargan moved that the special order be postponed to enable him to make a report from the Special Committee on the Foreign Loan.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Dargan, from the Special Committee on the Foreign Loan, reported

A bill to authorize a further foreign loan;
which was read a first and second time, postponed, placed on the Calendar, and made the special order from day to day after the expiration of the present special order.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May 1, 1863.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the bill by striking out the fifth clause in section 1; which reads as follows, viz:

5. The thirty-sixth section of said act is hereby amended and reenacted so as to read as follows:

"SEC. 36. The compensation of district tax collectors shall be five per cent on the first twenty thousand dollars collected and paid over, two per cent on the next thirty thousand dollars collected and paid over, one per cent on the next fifty thousand dollars collected and paid over, and one-tenth of one per cent on all moneys col-

lected and paid over above the sum of one hundred thousand dollars. And there shall be allowed and paid to the several assessors for their services under this act eight dollars for every day employed in making lists and assessments under this act, the number of days being certified by the district collector and approved by the State collector, and also eight dollars for every hundred taxable persons contained in the list as completed by such assessor and delivered to the collector: *Provided*, That in cities and large towns, where in his judgment the public interest may require it, the Secretary of the Treasury shall have power to increase the per diem compensation of assessors not to exceed ten dollars per day."

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays on his amendment;
Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 13
 } Nays ----- 46

Yeas: Clark, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Gartrell, Graham, Holder, Lewis, Miller, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Swan, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Gaither, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McRae, Menees, Miles, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, and Villeré.

So the amendment was not agreed to.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the next special order; which was the bill to authorize a further foreign loan.

The bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill having been read and agreed to,

Mr. Dargan moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a joint resolution (S. 24) entitled "Joint resolution in relation to the exchange of prisoners;" in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have disagreed to the amendments proposed by this House to the bill of the Senate (S. 158) entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war," ask a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Sparrow, Mr. Wigfall, and Mr. Johnson of Georgia the managers at said conference on their part.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 6th instant, approve and sign bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 169. An act to repeal an act entitled "An act supplementary to an act to provide for the funding and further issue of Treasury notes," approved April 30, 1863;

S. 182. An act to impose regulations upon the foreign commerce of the Confederate States to provide for the public defense; and

S. 183. An act to prohibit the importation of luxuries, or of articles not necessities or of common use.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Baldwin, resolved itself into open session.

Being again in secret session,

Mr. Miles moved that the House insist upon its amendments to the bill of the Senate (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war, and that a committee of conference be appointed to meet a similar committee which had been appointed on the part of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to.
And the House,
On motion of Mr. Perkins,
Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-SIXTH DAY—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

Under a general suspension of the rules, the following joint resolutions of thanks were introduced, read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

By Mr. Gaither: Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-eighth and Thirteenth regiments of North Carolina troops.

By Mr. Collier: Joint resolution of thanks to Virginia troops stationed at Drewry's Bluff.

By Mr. Clark: Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Third Georgia Regiment.

By Mr. Lyons: Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-second Virginia Regiment.

By Mr. Atkins: Joint resolution of thanks to the Forty-sixth and Fifty-fifth regiments of Tennessee Volunteers at Mobile.

By Mr. Miles: Joint resolution of thanks to Hart's battery, Hampton Legion, South Carolina Volunteers.

By Mr. Barksdale: Joint resolution of thanks to the [Thirty-]ninth Mississippi Regiment.

By Mr. Foster: Joint resolution of thanks to the Ninth Alabama Regiment.

By Mr. Chambers: Joint resolution of thanks to Brig. Gen. N. B. Forrest and the officers and men under his command.

Also, joint resolution of thanks to the Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment.

By Mr. Curry: Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart and the officers and men under his command.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 29) of thanks to the troops reenlisting for the war from the State of Georgia; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The titles of said joint resolutions were also agreed to.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 224) to promote the efficiency of the cavalry of the Provisional Army, and to punish lawlessness and irregularities of any portion thereof; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to authorize the publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States.

Mr. Barksdale submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

That the Committee on Printing be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to have printed for the use of Congress four thousand copies of the Alphabetical and Analytical Digest of the Laws of the Confederate States, prepared by W. W. Lester

and William J. Bromwell, comprising all the laws passed by the Congress of the Confederate States to the close of the present session.

SEC. 2. That the sum of four thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to compensate W. W. Lester and William J. Bromwell, compilers of said digest, for preparing the same for the use of Congress: *Provided*, The said compilers agree to accept said sum in full of all claim against the Government for the use of said work.

Mr. Clark called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Barksdale was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring and being put,

Shall the bill pass?

The yeas and nays required by the Constitution were recorded as follows, viz:

It was decided in the affirmative, {	Yeas.....	47
	Nays.....	21

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Chrisman, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Farrow, Gartrell, Gray, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Miller, Ralls, Strickland, and Vest.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the title by striking out the whole thereof and inserting the following:

A bill to authorize the purchase and publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States.

The amendment was agreed to, and the title as amended was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of Alabama offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That Major-General Robert E. Rodes be invited to a privileged seat within the Hall of the House of Representatives during his stay in Richmond, and that the Speaker be requested to communicate this resolution to him.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, bills of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 95. An act for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases;

H. R. 108. An act to establish certain post routes therein named; and

H. R. 109. An act to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury.

The Senate have passed a joint resolution of the following title, viz:

S. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Virginia regiments who have reenlisted for the war;

In which amendments and joint resolution I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of this House (H. R. 33) entitled "Joint resolution to declare the meaning of an act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers."

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the bill to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to a third reading.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the first section of the bill as follows, viz:

Insert after the word "the," in line 14, the words "assimilated rank and the," and, in line 15, strike out the word "brigadier-general" and insert "colonels of cavalry."

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill having been read a third time, and the question recurring and being put,

Shall the bill pass?

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 37
 { Nays----- 31

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, De Jarnette, Farrow, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lewis, Martin, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Simpson, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyon, Machen, McLean, Pugh, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill was passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

Mr. Sexton, from the Committee on Quartermaster's and Commissary Departments, to whom had been referred the memorials of Capt. Zimmerman Davis and others, asking compensation for horses killed in battle or lost in service, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from their further consideration, and that they be referred to the Committee on Claims; which was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton, from the same committee, reported

A bill to provide for the payment of horses killed, captured, lost, or permanently disabled in the Confederate States service.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the bill by striking out, in section 1, the words "since the first day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-one," and insert in lieu thereof the words "from the passage of this act."

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which the last amendment of the Senate to the bill to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864, was agreed to.

Mr. Sexton moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Clark,

Mr. Clark demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment was lost.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Conrad moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Sexton called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas-----	22
Nays-----	37

Yeas: Baldwin, Bridgers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Gartrell, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, McQueen, Pugh, Ralls, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrow, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Goode, Gray, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyon, Machen, Martin, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Vest, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Goode moved that the other bills on the Calendar be postponed for the purpose of taking up for consideration the bill to authorize the impressment of meat for the use of the Army under certain circumstances.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was taken up, engrossed, and read a third time.

Mr. Baldwin moved to recommit the bill to the special committee.

Mr. Ralls moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Welsh called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to postpone was lost.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to recommit was lost.

Mr. Jones called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was passed.

The title having been read and agreed to,

Mr. Goode moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

The Chair laid before the House the following communications from the President; which, together with the accompanying documents, were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means:

RICHMOND, VA., February 11, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting estimates of additional sums needed for the support of the Government.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purposes indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., February 11, 1864.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of War, submitting an estimate of the sum needed for the conscription service.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purpose indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Chair also laid before the House

A bill (H. R. 108) to establish certain post routes therein named; which had been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments of the Senate were read and agreed to as follows, viz:

After the word "Baldwin," in the fourteenth line, add "From Station Number Five, Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, via Middletown Store, Appling County, to Ocmulgee, in Coffee County."

In the same line, strike out the word "also" and insert "all."

Add at the end of the bill the words "Also, in the State of Florida: From Orange Lake, on the Saint John's, to Sand Point, at the head of Indian River."

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 30) of thanks to certain Virginia regiments who have reenlisted for the war; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring its reference to a committee having been suspended, the joint resolution was read a third time and passed unanimously.

The title was also read and agreed to.

The Chair also laid before the House

A bill (H. R. 109) to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury;

which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

The amendment was read and concurred in as follows, viz:

In section 1, line 20, strike out the words "not exceeding fifteen hundred dollars."

Mr. Dargan moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of the Senate was concurred in.

Mr. Hartridge moved to lay the motion on the table; which latter motion did not prevail.

The motion to reconsider prevailed, and

The House refused to concur in the amendment.

Mr. Swan, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution to print and distribute to the Army copies of the President's address to the soldiers of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time, and the rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the President of the Confederate States be respectfully requested to furnish to this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, a copy of the report of Major-General Pemberton, in relation to the siege, defense, and fall of Vicksburg.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Pugh, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, again resolved itself into open session.

Mr. Hilton moved that the House take a recess until half past 7 o'clock.

Mr. Swan moved that the House adjourn.

Upon which motion Mr. Lander demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yea	32
Nay	25 [26]

Nays: Ashe, Bridgers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Gartrell, Hanly, Hart-ridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Lyons,

Machen, McLean, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, and Vest.

So the motion did not prevail.

On motion, the joint resolution was referred to the Special Committee on the Exchange of Prisoners.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate insist on their amendments to the bill of this House (H. R. 92) to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the House insist upon its disagreement to the Senate's amendments, and that a committee of conference be appointed; which motion prevailed.

The Speaker announced that he had appointed Messrs. Chilton of Alabama, Holcombe of Virginia, and Swan of Tennessee as managers on the part of the House at the conference tendered by the Senate, on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to organize forces to serve during the war.

On motion of Mr. Swan,

The House resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-SEVENTH DAY — FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

Mr. Jones moved that the House take up for consideration the motion, entered by him on yesterday, to reconsider the vote by which the House concurred in the last amendment of the Senate to the bill of the House to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following amendment to the amendment of the Senate:

Add thereto the following, viz:

"For increased compensation to officers, clerks, and other employees in the legislative and executive departments of the Government, in pursuance of an act approved January thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, from January thirtieth to May fifteenth, inclusive, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, as follows:

"For the House of Representatives of the Confederate States, two thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars.

"For the Senate of the Confederate States, two thousand dollars.

"For the Treasury Department, two hundred and twenty-seven thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-six cents.

"For the Navy Department, five thousand five hundred and sixty-one dollars and twenty-five cents.

"For the Department of Justice, three thousand and seventy-five dollars.

"For the State Department, two thousand two hundred and eleven dollars and seventy-nine cents.

"For the Post-Office Department, twenty-four thousand three hundred dollars and eighty-two cents.

"For the private secretary and messenger of the President, five hundred and eighty-seven dollars and ninety-one cents.

"For deficiency in appropriation for compensation of the private secretary and messenger of the President to December thirty-first, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, four hundred and forty-one dollars and thirteen cents,

"For compensation of the agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi River, a chief and disbursing clerk, and nine other clerks, from February first to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, twelve thousand three hundred and forty-seven dollars and ninety-two cents.

"For incidental and contingent expenses of the Treasury service west of the Mississippi River, from February first to June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, twenty thousand dollars.

"For erecting a staircase connecting the first and second floors of the building occupied by the Treasury Department, three thousand dollars.

"For building a vault in the Treasury Department for the security of the public moneys, fifty thousand dollars.

"For pay of officers, noncommissioned officers and privates and clerks, including current and extraordinary expenses, in the Bureau of Conscription, four million eight hundred and sixty-eight thousand four hundred and sixty-seven dollars."

Mr. Lyons submitted the following amendment to the amendment of Mr. Jones:

Add the words

"For compensation to the clerks in the office of the chief tax collector of the State of Virginia, five thousand dollars, if so much be necessary."

Mr. Jones moved, to lay the amendment of Mr. Lyons on the table; which motion prevailed.

The amendment of Mr. Jones to the amendment of the Senate was agreed to, and the amendment of the Senate, as amended, was concurred in.

Mr. Jones presented the estimates on which his amendment was based; which were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Staples, from the Committee on Patents, under a suspension of the rules, reported back a bill of the House (H. R. 82) to grant a special copyright to W. J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzl for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics, and an amendment of the Senate thereto, with the recommendation that the House do not concur in the amendment.

The amendment of the Senate having been read as follows, viz:

Strike out the provision in the second section; which reads as follows, viz: "*Provided, nevertheless,* That this act shall not be so construed as to have a retroactive operation, so as to prevent the sale of said tactics heretofore printed,"

And the question recurring,

Shall the House concur in the amendment of the Senate?

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Hartridge moved that the House insist on its disagreement to the Senate amendments to the bill of the House (H. R. 75) to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March 26, 1863, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April 27, 1863, and grant the conference asked for by the Senate.

The motion prevailed, and

The Chair appointed as managers at said conference on the part of the House Messrs. Hartridge of Georgia, Staples of Virginia, and Hanly of Arkansas.

Mr. Graham, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the enlisted men of Douglas' (Texas) battery;

which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring the joint resolution to be referred to a committee having been suspended, it was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 31. Joint resolution of thanks to the Tenth Mississippi Regiment.

The Senate have passed, with an amendment, a bill of this House (H. R. 112) to authorize the President to establish additional military courts.

The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 200. An act to confer additional powers upon courts-martial and military courts; and

S. 203. An act to amend the sixty-fifth article of war;

In which amendment and bills I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth and Twenty-seventh regiments of North Carolina troops; which was read a first and second time.

The rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Miles moved to suspend the rules, so as to allow all joint resolutions of thanks to troops who have reenlisted for the war to be introduced and considered at any time during the remainder of the session.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Barksdale, under a suspension of the rules, from the Committee on Printing, reported

A bill to fix the compensation for the publication in the public gazettes of the acts of Congress, including the publication already made of the acts of the last session; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to recommit the bill to the Committee on Printing; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. Boyce submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

That the Attorney-General be authorized to contract for the publication of the acts of Congress on the best terms he can, in no event to exceed the ordinary rates of printing for private persons.

Mr. Chrisman moved to postpone the bill until Monday next, and make it the special order for that day at 2 o'clock.

The motion was lost.

The question recurring on agreeing to the amendment of Mr. Boyce,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring on its passage,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Barksdale moved to amend the title of the bill by striking out the words "including the publication already made of the acts of the last session."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 178) to provide payment for certain printing therein

mentioned, done by authority of the two Houses of Congress, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill having been read a third time, and the question recurring on its passage,

The yeas and nays required by the Constitution were recorded as follows, viz:

It was decided in the affirmative, {	Yeas -----	59
	Nays -----	2

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Crockett, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenau of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Chrisman and Jones.

So the bill was passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale, from the same committee, reported

A bill supplemental to the several acts in relation to public printing; which was read a first and second time:

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by striking out the first section; which reads as follows, viz:

That in lieu of the prices heretofore allowed for printing for the several Departments of the Government, there shall be paid thirty per cent upon the actual cost of typesetting, press work, and ruling and binding; and it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Printing to require a certificate of two disinterested practical printers to accompany the bill presented for work done; said certificate to set forth the actual cost thereof, and no bill shall be paid unless accompanied by such certificate.

On motion of Mr. Chilton. the bill was postponed until to-morrow and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Jones, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A bill to authorize the payment of mileage and salary to members-elect of the Second Congress of the Confederate States; which was read first and second times.

The rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee,

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

Mr. Hilton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 174) to authorize the issue of certain bonds for payment to the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company, of the State of Florida, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on the amendment of the committee; which is as follows, viz:

In line 4, strike out the word "six" and insert "eight,"

It was decided in the affirmative.

The bill as amended was then read a third time and passed, and the title was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 210) to aid any State in communicating with and perfecting records concerning its troops, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the bill by striking out after the word "war," in line 8, the words

And such officer shall be allowed to purchase for himself supplies from the commissary stores on the same terms with officers of similar rank in the service of the Confederate States and according to the regulations which govern them: *Provided*, Such supplies shall not exceed those which a colonel of the Confederate States is allowed to purchase.

Mr. Miles called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Arrington demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 20
 } Nays ----- 36

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bridgers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Curry, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Jones, Machen, Preston, Pugh, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Vest.

Nays: Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Clopton, Davidson, De Jarnette, Farrow, Funsten, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Martin, Miles, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Swan, Villere, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the bill by adding at the end thereof the following, viz:

And provided further, That these agents shall be charged with the duty of obtaining from the officers in command of companies final statements of deceased soldiers, to be filed in the Second Auditor's office to facilitate the settlement of such claims.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was read a third time and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 224) to promote the efficiency of the cavalry of the Provisional Army, and to punish lawlessness and irregularities of any portion thereof, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendment of the committee was read as follows, viz:

Strike out the third section of the bill, as follows, viz:

"SEC. 3. That all laws or parts of laws authorizing the organizations of com-

panies or bands of partisan rangers serving as cavalry be, and the same are hereby, repealed, and all companies or bands of said troops now existing shall have the privilege of volunteering for the war and serving with the pay and allowances now allowed by law to regular troops of the Provisional Army, but upon their failure so to volunteer within a reasonable time, they shall be dismounted and placed in the infantry service, and their horses taken for public use, as provided for above."

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the bill by striking out the word "loyal," in the tenth line.

Mr. Chambliss moved that the bill and amendments be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the House resolve itself into secret session. The motion was lost.

Mr. Clark called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Chambliss to postpone indefinitely,

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 41
Nays ----- 27 [26]

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Ewing, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miller, Preston, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, and Vest.

Nays: Arrington, Barksdale, Boyce, Bridgers, Chambers, Curry, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Graham, Holder, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Ralls, Singleton, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the bill and amendments were indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote just taken, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Gartrell moved that the House resolve itself into secret session.

Upon which Mr. Lander demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 45
Nays ----- 21

Yeas: Arrington, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Conrad, Curry, De Jarnette, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Holcombe, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Munnerlyn, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Wright of Texas.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Chilton, Clopton, Collier, Davidson, Gaither, Garland, Gray, Hanly, Jones, Menees, Miles, Miller, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, and Welsh.

So the motion prevailed, and

The House resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and joint resolutions of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 118. An act to authorize the purchase and publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States;

H. R. 35. Joint resolution of thanks to Virginia troops stationed at Drewry's Bluff;

H. R. 36. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-eighth and Thirteenth regiments of North Carolina troops;

H. R. 37. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Third Georgia Regiment;

H. R. 38. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-second Virginia Regiment;

H. R. 40. Joint resolution of thanks to the Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment; and

H. R. 44. Joint resolution of thanks to the Forty-sixth and Fifty-fifth regiments of Tennessee Volunteers at Mobile.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 179. An act making allowances to officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, under certain circumstances, and to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization of the Navy," approved March 16, 1861;

S. 29. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops reenlisting for the war from the State of Georgia;

S. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Virginia regiments who have reenlisted for the war;

H. R. 95. An act for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases;

H. R. 102. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts;"

H. R. 108. An act to establish certain post routes therein named;

H. R. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McClung's battery;

H. R. 31. Joint resolution of thanks to the Tenth Mississippi Regiment; and

H. R. 33. Joint resolution to declare the meaning of an act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill to establish and organize two bureaus in connection with the agency of the Treasury in the Trans-Mississippi Department, one of which is to be known as the bureau of the auditor, and the other as the bureau of the comptroller for the Trans-Mississippi Department; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by adding at the end thereof the following as an additional section:

The compensation of such clerks shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, which shall not exceed two thousand dollars for the chief clerk and fifteen hundred dollars for each assistant clerk per annum.

The amendment was agreed to, and the bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 12, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, submitting an estimate for additional sums needed for the support of the Government.

I recommend an appropriation of the amount specified for the purposes indicated.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill (H. R. 112) to authorize the President to establish additional military courts; which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

The amendment of the Senate having been read as follows, viz:

which courts shall be organized, and have the same powers and duties, and the members thereof appointed as provided by law: *Provided*, That the members thereof shall be selected from persons who have been incapacitated from active service in the field by reason of wounds or disease contracted whilst in service, or from persons over forty-five years of age,

Mr. Chambers moved to amend the same by striking out the proviso.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Chambers was agreed to.

The amendment of the Senate, as amended, was concurred in.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 200) to confer additional powers upon courts-martial and military courts; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 203) to amend the sixty-fifth article of war; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Singleton presented the petition of William Tucker, asking compensation for the labor of a slave impressed into the public service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Also, the petition of James L. Patterson, asking compensation for property taken for the use of soldiers in the Confederate service; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Hanly presented the petition of A. H. Dobbin, of Arkansas, asking payment for 400 bales of cotton, subscribed to the Government and destroyed by order of the military authorities; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Farrow presented a presentment of the Confederate States grand jury for February 1, 1864, at Greenville, S. C., suggesting increased pay to witnesses attending Confederate States courts; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Conrow presented the memorial of Albert Danner, assistant quartermaster, asking relief from loss, from the destruction of Treasury notes, to prevent their falling into the possession of the enemy; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Chilton presented the memorial of the Central Warehouse Company, asking compensation for damages sustained by the launching of a Confederate gunboat at Selma; which was referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. Miller moved that the House do now adjourn.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered.

The motion to adjourn prevailed, and

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session.

The Chair announced that he had appointed Messrs. Baldwin of Virginia, Lyon of Alabama, Conrad of Louisiana, Boyce of South Carolina, and Lewis of Georgia managers on the part of the House at the conference tendered to the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House (H. R. 101) making additional appropriation of secret service money.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House (H. R. 113) to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the House (H. R. 113) to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments; which were read as follows, to wit:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert

"I. That during the present invasion of the Confederate States the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus be, and the same is hereby, suspended; but such suspension shall apply only to the cases of persons arrested or detained by order of the President, Secretary of War, or the general officer commanding the Trans-Mississippi Military Department, by the authority and under the control of the President. It is hereby declared that the purpose of Congress in the passage of this act is to provide more effectually for the public safety by suspending the writ of habeas corpus in the following cases, and no others:

"I. Of treason or treasonable efforts or combinations to subvert the Government of the Confederate States.

"II. Of conspiracies to overthrow the Government, or conspiracies to resist the lawful authorities of the Confederate States.

"III. Of combining to assist the enemy, or of communicating intelligence to the enemy, or giving him aid and comfort.

"IV. Of conspiracies, preparations, and attempts to incite servile insurrection.

"V. Of desertions or encouraging desertions, of harboring deserters, and of attempts to avoid military service: *Provided*, That in cases of palpable wrong and oppression by any subordinate officer upon any party who does not legally owe military service, his superior officer shall grant prompt relief to the oppressed party, and the subordinate shall be dismissed from office.

"VI. Of spies and other emissaries of the enemy.

"VII. Of holding correspondence or intercourse with the enemy without necessity and without permission of the Confederate States.

"VIII. Of unlawful trading with the enemy and other offenses against the laws of the Confederate States, enacted to promote their success in the war.

"IX. Of conspiracies or attempts to liberate prisoners of war held by the Confederate States.

"X. Of conspiracies or attempts or preparations to aid the enemy.

"XI. Of persons advising or inciting others to abandon the Confederate cause, or to resist the Confederate States, or to adhere to the enemy.

"XII. Of unlawfully burning, destroying, or injuring, or attempting to burn, destroy, or injure, any bridge or railroad, telegraphic line of communication, or other property, with the intent of aiding the enemy.

"XIII. Of treasonable designs to impair the military power of the Government by destroying or attempting to destroy the vessels, or arms, or munitions of war, or arsenals, foundries, workshops, or other property of the Confederate States.

"SEC. 2. The President shall cause proper officers to investigate the cases of all persons so arrested or detained, in order that they may be discharged if improperly detained.

McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Bell, Davidson, Farrow, Garland, Jones, and Mencees.

So the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

Mr. Hilton moved to amend the preamble by striking out all after the word "it," in the seventh line.

Mr. Clark called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Hilton did not prevail.

Mr. Barksdale called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the preamble.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the preamble was agreed to.

Mr. Foster, from the Committee on Territories, by unanimous consent, reported

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Territory of Arizona;"

which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title of the bill was read and agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the President's message and the proceedings of the House on the bill to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases.

Mr. Gartrell moved to amend the motion of Mr. Jones by striking out "the President's message."

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Gartrell was agreed to.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Jones, as amended.

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays thereon; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Jones was lost.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Hanly,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-EIGHTH DAY—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Minnigerode.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., February 12, 1864.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 21st ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War relative to the delivery of the "tax in kind" at the Government depots by the producers.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., February 12, 1864.

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 29th ultimo, I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, submitting copies of papers relating "to the trial and conviction of W. E. Coffman by a military court," and to "a writ of habeas corpus issued from the circuit court of Rockingham County, Va., to prevent the execution of said Coffman."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Chair also laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

To the House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America:

Having carefully considered the act entitled "An act to provide for wounded and disabled officers, soldiers, and seamen an asylum, to be called 'The Veteran Soldiers' Home,'" I feel constrained to return it, with my objections, to the House of Representatives, in which it originated. The object of the act appeals most strongly to the sympathies of all; but in providing the means for effectuating that object it enacts provisions which, in my judgment, are unwarranted by the Constitution. Without affirming that the act creates a perfect corporation, there can be no doubt that it confers upon the board of managers of the institution which it is intended to found corporate powers and franchises of a well-defined character which constitute them what is known as a quasi corporation. They are to organize themselves into a board by the election of a president, treasurer, and other necessary officers; are to continue in office until their successors are appointed, thus providing for a continual succession; and they are to be subject to the general approval and direction of the Secretary of War, thus constituting the Secretary a visitor, a usual incident of eleemosynary corporations. They have power to make by-laws, or, as the act expresses it, the "power to make all requisite rules and regulations" for the government of the institution, and they are authorized to receive endowments from individuals and from the States. These are all ordinary and well-known corporate franchises. But if any doubt could exist as to whether they are granted to the board as a corporation or quasi corporation, or only intrusted to them as individual trustees, that doubt is removed by the second section of the act. That section provides that the treasurer shall give bond with security for the faithful discharge of his duties, which bond shall be payable to the said board of managers and their successors in office, and may by them be put in suit in any State or Confederate court having jurisdiction. It can not be understood that this bond is to be taken to and sued upon by the board of managers in their individual capacity as natural persons. This is evident from two considerations:

First. Such a power would be supererogatory and useless, since, as natural persons, they already had, by the common law, ample right to make any contract and take any bond or other security not contravening the policy of the law.

Second. The right of action on a bond payable to the managers, as individuals, would, in the courts of law, remain in and be under the control of the managers after they had gone out of office; and, in case of the death of all of them, would belong to the personal representative of the last survivor; and to prevent these inconveniences, it is expressly provided that the bond should be payable to and be sued on by "the board of managers and their successors in office," which could only be accomplished by constituting them, to that extent, a corporation.

From these considerations it is apparent that the intent of the act is to confer corporate powers upon the board of managers; and that intent is, in my judgment, beyond the powers intrusted to Congress by the Constitution. However enlightened opinions may have differed under the old Government, the whole history and theory of the contest in which we are engaged and the express recognition in our Constitution of the sovereignty of the States preclude all idea of so widely extending, by construction, the field of implied powers. That there is no such power expressly granted need scarcely be remarked.

But if this view of the intent and operation of the act be discarded as incorrect then it can be susceptible of but one other interpretation. It provides for the support and comfort of soldiers and seamen disabled in the public service—a class in all countries regarded as the peculiar objects of governmental benevolence. The insti-

tution which it founds is endowed, in part at least, from the funds of the Government. The real estate necessary for the purpose of this act is to be leased or purchased by the Secretary of War, under the approval of the President, as the property of the Government. Officers in the service and pay of the Government are to be assigned for duty at the asylum. Its whole management is to be subject to the general direction and control of a high officer of the Government—the Secretary of War. And the board of managers are required to report to the Secretary, to be communicated to Congress at every regular session, a statement of the condition of the institution. It is, then, a Government institution, and its officers are officers of the Confederate States; but they are not to be appointed in any of the ways by which alone such appointments can be constitutionally made—neither by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, nor by the President alone, nor by the courts of law, nor by the head of a department. The managers are to be appointed by the governors of the several States, and they in turn are to appoint their president and treasurer and fix their salaries.

These two are, in my judgment, the only interpretations of which the act is susceptible, and, under either view, its provisions are violative of the Constitution.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 11, 1864.*

Bill to be entitled "An act to provide for wounded and disabled officers and soldiers an asylum, to be called 'The Veteran Soldiers' Home.'"

SECTION 1. *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact*, That, in order to make a just and adequate provision for the maintenance and comfort of officers and soldiers or seamen who have been or may be disabled by wounds received or disease contracted in the military or naval service of the Confederate States during the pending war, the sum of dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to be expended, or so much thereof as may be necessary, by the Secretary of War, under the approval and direction of the President, in the lease or purchase of some safe and suitable location for an asylum, to be called "The Veteran Soldiers' Home," and for the erection and furnishing of such buildings and fixtures as the probable number of inmates may render necessary; and in order that the several Confederate States, and the citizens thereof, may have the opportunity of becoming identified with this philanthropic and patriotic enterprise, and of participating in the pleasing and grateful duty of contributing to the relief of those who have periled all, and have been disabled in the service of their country, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War, immediately after the passage of this act, to invite the aid and cooperation of said States, through the respective governors thereof, and to request the appointment of one person on behalf of each State as a manager of the institution hereby established; and the several persons so appointed shall, as soon as practicable, assemble at some time and place, to be designated by the Secretary of War, and organize themselves into a board of managers by the election of a president and other necessary officers, with such compensation as the board may deem adequate, and a majority of the persons composing said board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. They shall continue in office for the period of two years from the date of their appointment, and until their successors are in like manner appointed, and subject to the general approval and direction of the Secretary of War. They shall have the management and control of said institution, and the power to make all requisite rules and regulations therefor, including the appointment of stewards and nurses, the organizing a police force, and other necessary arrangements. Upon their recommendation and application the proper authorities shall appoint or assign for duty, at said institution, a commissary, who shall provide needful supplies for the same on Government account, and such surgeons and assistant surgeons, in the pay of the Government, as the wants of the institution may require, or as may be necessary for the skillful and successful management of an infirmary, which the board may establish as a part of the institution, for the benefit of all those invalids, soldiers, or seamen who may need the repose and treatment furnished therein, together with all other persons of said classes, whose wounds, from hasty field operations, require further surgical attention; and the Surgeon-General shall be authorized to appoint the most skillful surgeons to discharge the duties of said infirmary. They shall adopt such measure as they may deem best for obtaining contributions from individuals desiring to aid the enterprise, and shall preserve a registry, which shall be kept open to public inspection, of the names of such contributors and the amount contributed by each, and, also, all donations received from the several State governments.

SEC. 2. The funds of the institution shall be placed in the hands of a treasurer to be elected by the board, who, before assuming the duties of his office, shall enter

into a bond and security for the faithful performance thereof, which bond shall be approved by the board of managers and made payable to said board and their successors in office, and may by them, for any infraction of the same, be put in suit in any State or Confederate court having jurisdiction of the amount. The said funds, subject to the general approval of the Secretary of War, as aforesaid, shall be expended by the board of managers in the erection of such buildings, fixtures, and appurtenances as may be necessary, and in providing for such agricultural, horticultural, mechanical, or other employment or pursuit as the wants of the institution or the comfort and recreation of the inmates may suggest. The said board shall, before the assembling of each regular session of Congress, submit a report of the condition and state of affairs of the institution to the Secretary of War, which it shall be his duty to communicate to Congress.

SEC. 3. The beneficiaries of said institution, who shall be entitled to become inmates of the same, shall be all commissioned and noncommissioned officers, musicians, and private soldiers and seamen who have been, or who may hereafter be, retired or discharged by reason of wounds or injuries received or disease contracted in the military or naval service of the Confederate States in the line of their duty during the pending war; and any person claiming the benefit of this act shall present his application in the manner prescribed by the board of managers, and shall, if admitted, be subject to all of the rules and regulations of the institution so long as he remains an inmate thereof. He shall, at the time of his admittance, deposit with such person as may be designated by the board of managers, all certificates and other papers relating to his discharge from the service and entitling him to future pay or compensation from the Government as a retired or discharged officer, soldier, or seaman; which said pay or compensation shall, during the time of his continuance in the institution, be paid by the disbursing officer making such payments to the treasurer of the institution, and shall constitute a part of the general fund of the same, except so much thereof as the board of managers may direct to be paid, from time to time, to the person in whose right it is received.

SEC. 4. Any beneficiary of said institution may discontinue his connection therewith at his option, and upon withdrawing from the same shall be entitled to withdraw also all certificates and other papers deposited by him at the time of his admittance, and shall be remitted to all the rights and benefits secured thereby.

On motion of Mr. Clapp, the communication was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the communication of the President, received yesterday, submitting estimates of expenditure in the collection of the tithe, etc., was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. Boteler introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Lomax's brigade;
which was read a first and second time.

The rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Boteler also introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Seventh and Twelfth regiments of Virginia troops;
which was read a first and second time.

The rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chilton introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the soldiers from the State of Alabama who have reenlisted for the war;
which was read a first and second time.

The rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Preston moved that the special order be postponed to enable him to make a report from the Committee on the Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments.

The motion prevailed.

Mr. Preston, from said committee, submitted a report: which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the special order; which was the bill to facilitate the settlement of the claims of deceased officers and soldiers.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the first section by striking out, in line 7, the words "a salary of dollars" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "the same compensation allowed by law to other auditors of the Treasury."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clark moved to amend same section, in line 9, by striking out the words "a salary of dollars per annum" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "the salary allowed by law to the chief clerks in the offices of other auditors of the Treasury."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the same section by inserting, in line 10, in the blank, the words "two thousand dollars."

Mr. Jones moved to amend the amendment by striking out the line 10, as follows: "and a register with the salary of dollars per annum."

The amendment of Mr. Jones was lost, and the amendment of Mr. Clark was agreed to.

Mr. Clark submitted the following amendment; which was agreed to:

In section 1, line 11, fill up the blank with "one thousand five hundred dollars."

Mr. Gartrell submitted the following amendment:

Add at the end of section 1 the following proviso: "*Provided*, That no person shall be appointed under the provisions of this act who is liable to military service in the field."

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	31 [32]
Nays	30

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Ewing, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hilton, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Strickland, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Boyce, Clark, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Holcombe, Johnston, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Swan, Vest, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Boudinot moved to amend the second section by inserting, in line 3, the words "and the Indian territories."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Bridgers submitted the following amendment:

In section 2, lines 7 and 8, strike out the words "a citizen of the State represented by his division" and insert in lieu thereof the words "as well as the clerks under him shall be citizens of the State represented by such division."

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 199. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862; and

S. 226. An act to provide for retiring officers of the Army.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a joint resolution of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 39. Joint resolution of thanks to Hart's battery, Hampden's Legion, South Carolina Volunteers;

In which bills and amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate insist on their amendment to the bill of this House entitled

H. R. 109. An act to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury.

The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill (S. 204) to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 119. A bill to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States of America from the State of Arkansas.

They have also passed joint resolutions of the Senate of the following titles, viz:

S. 31. Joint resolution of thanks to Commander John Taylor Wood and the officers and men under his command for daring and brilliant conduct; and

S. 32. Joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirtieth regiments of North Carolina troops for their patriotic devotion in reenlisting for the war.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate insist on their amendments, disagreed to by this House, to the bill (H. R. 92) to tax, fund, and limit the currency, agree to the conference asked by the House upon the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Hunter, Mr. Semmes, and Mr. Orr the said committee on their part.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 179. An act making allowances to officers of the Navy of the Confederate States, under certain circumstances, and to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the organization of the Navy," approved March 16, 1861;

S. 29. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops reenlisting for the war from the State of Georgia;

S. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Virginia regiments who have reenlisted for the war;

H. R. 37. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Third Georgia Regiment;

H. R. 36. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-eighth and Thirteenth regiments of North Carolina troops;

H. R. 40. Joint resolution of thanks to the Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment;

H. R. 44. Joint resolution of thanks to the Forty-sixth and Fifty-fifth regiments of Tennessee Volunteers at Mobile;

H. R. 35. Joint resolution of thanks to Virginia troops stationed at Drewry's Bluff;

H. R. 38. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-second Virginia Regiment; and

H. R. 118. An act to authorize the purchase and publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The Chair laid before the House a joint resolution entitled

H. R. 39. Joint resolution of thanks to Hart's battery, Hampden's Legion, South Carolina Volunteers;

which had been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments of the Senate were read and concurred in as follows, viz:

1. Strike out, in line 3, the word "Hampden's" and insert "Hampton."
2. Amend the title by striking out the word "Hampden's" and insert "Hampton."

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 226) to provide for retiring officers of the Army; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 199) to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill of the House (H. R. 109) to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury; which had been returned from the Senate with a message that the Senate insist on their amendments.

Mr. Jones moved that the House adhere to its disagreement to the Senate's amendments.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Miles moved that the House insist on its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate, and tender to that body a committee of conference; which motion prevailed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, as follows, to wit:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 11th instant the President approved and signed the following act (H. R. 96) entitled "An act to authorize the issue of certificates for interest on the fifteen million loan."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 13, 1864.*

The Chair laid before the House a Senate joint resolution (S. 31) of thanks to Commander John Taylor Wood and the officers and men under his command for daring and brilliant conduct; which was read a first and second time, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

Also, a Senate joint resolution (S. 32) of thanks to the Fifteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirtieth regiments of North Carolina troops for their patriotic devotion in reenlisting for the war; which was read a first and second time, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House the following communication from the President:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 12, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information a communication from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several additional "reports of General Beauregard, connected with the defense of Charleston."

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The message and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The motion to print the usual number of copies was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Mr. Bridgers moved that the House do now adjourn; which motion did not prevail, and

The House, on motion of Mr. Boyce, took a recess till half past 7 o'clock.

Having reassembled, a message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House (H. R. 114) to provide for increasing the price of the rations for sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals; in which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 10th instant, approve and sign a bill entitled

S. 159. An act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Post-Office Department, and such clerks as may be necessary, to carry on the postal service in the States west of the Mississippi River.

On the 11th instant the President approved and signed the following bills and joint resolution:

S. 191. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to establish a volunteer navy," approved April 18, 1863;

S. 208. An act to provide compensation for officers who may heretofore have performed staff duty under orders of their superior officers;

S. 215. An act to amend an act to authorize the appointment of an agent of the Treasury Department west of the Mississippi, approved January 27, 1864; and

S. 22. Joint resolution for the benefit of Zedekiah McDaniel, of Kentucky, and Francis M. Ewing, of Mississippi.

The Chair laid before the House a bill (H. R. 114) to provide for increasing the price of the rations for sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals; which had been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

Strike out all after the enacting clause; which reads as follows:

"That from and after the passage of this act the price of the ration for sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals shall be fixed at two and a half dollars," and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"That the commutation value of rations of the sick and wounded and of all employees in hospitals be fixed at such rates, not to exceed two and a half dollars, as the Secretary of War shall designate."

Strike out the title and insert in lieu thereof "A bill to increase the commutation value of hospital rations,"

Mr. Farrow moved that the House concur in the amendments of the Senate; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Baldwin offered the following resolution; which was adopted, viz:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire and report at what time the term of service of the present session of Congress will expire, and whether any legislation is necessary to conform the legislative to the executive term.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, to wit:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House (H. R. 197) to increase the efficiency of the Army by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain capacities; in which amendments I am directed to request the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Miles moved to postpone the unfinished business for the purpose of taking up for consideration the bill just returned from the Senate; which motion prevailed.

Mr. Hilton moved that the rules be suspended for that purpose; which motion also prevailed, and the amendments of the Senate were read and concurred in as follows, viz:

1. In section 1, line 12, after the words "Secretary of War," insert "or the commanding general of the Trans-Mississippi Department."

2. In section 1, line 18, after the words "Secretary of War," insert "or the commanding general of the Trans-Mississippi Department."

3. At the end of the third section add "Care being taken to allow in each case a credit for all slaves who have been already impressed under this act and who are still in service, or have died or been lost while in service, and all impressments under this act shall be taken in equal ratio from all owners in the same locality, city, county, or district."

The House then, on motion of Mr. Hilton, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session, and took up for consideration the unfinished business; which was the bill to facilitate the settlement of claims of deceased officers and soldiers.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Baldwin,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the fourth section of the bill by striking out, in line 2, the word "the" and the words "for each State," and inserting in lieu of the word "the" the word "each."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to strike out "etc.," in line 3, and insert in lieu thereof the word "papers."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend by inserting the word "necessary" between the words "the" and "rolls," in line 3.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Clark moved to amend the same section by striking out after the word "division," in line 4, the words

and it shall be the duty of the Quartermaster-General to file the pay rolls received in his office in the office of the Fourth Auditor, to be used in the divisions for the States to which the troops so paid belong, as soon after the reception thereof as the business of his office will permit; and the superintendents of said divisions shall classify the same according to the companies, battalions, regiments, etc., from said State, and keep the same separately for such companies, battalions, etc., in order for convenient access thereto.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the fifth section by striking out after the word "Auditor," in line 14, the words

and, for said purpose, the Fourth Auditor is hereby further authorized to send an agent for each State to the troops in the field from said State, and to whom transportation for this purpose shall be granted, to obtain from the various commanders final statements of deceased soldiers, and said lists, when so obtained, shall be taken and used as evidence in the settlement of claims: *Provided*, That where such can not be or have not been ascertained, the Fourth Auditor shall have and exercise the equitable discretionary power named in the third section of this act, the intent and meaning of which is to facilitate the settlement of the claims of deceased soldiers without delay.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Jones was lost.

Mr. Ingram moved to amend the sixth section by striking out, in line 2, the words "by legislative enactment" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "either by its governor, by legislative enactment, or otherwise."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the bill by striking out the whole of the sixth section; which reads as follows:

SEC. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That where any State shall, by legislative enactment, cause the appointment of a special agent to adjust and settle the claims of its deceased soldiers, such agent shall have free access to investigate said claims at all times, shall be empowered to take and certify testimony as a judicial officer, and in case of immaterial omissions in forms of application, date of death, or other incorrect description,

where the substance and justice of the claim and the identity of the deceased and claimant are ascertained to the satisfaction of the superintendent of the State division, may, in conjunction with said superintendent, where both are agreed, supply the necessary points by mutual certificate to the Auditor, who may allow the same as sufficient evidence.

The amendment was lost.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the seventh section by striking out the "etc.," in line 5, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "father or mother."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved to amend the eighth section by striking out the following after the word "accounts," in line 3:

that they shall be made payable alone to the ascertained representative or his executor or administrator, and not to attorneys or other parties; but may be assigned by the claimant, in writing thereon, to any other individual.

The amendment was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and joint resolutions of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 111. A bill to be entitled "An act for the relief of Livingston Mims;"

H. R. 29. Joint resolution for the relief of Maj. Henry R. Hooper;

H. R. 48. Joint resolution of thanks to the soldiers from the State of Alabama who have reenlisted for the war;

H. R. 49. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Seventh and Twelfth regiments of Virginia troops; and

H. R. 50. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Lomax's brigade.

Mr. Hanly moved to amend the bill by striking out the ninth section; which reads as follows, viz:

Sec. 9. *Be it further enacted*, That the appointments, other than those at present employed in the settlement of these claims, shall be from persons not liable to conscription, and that said Auditor and his clerks shall hereafter be entirely exempt from military duty, except such as may be required in the preservation and defense of the public property in their charge.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Hanly by striking out all after the word "conscription," in line 3.

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to, and the amendment of Mr. Hanly was also agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the twelfth section by striking out, in line 4, the word "six" and inserting in lieu thereof the word "twelve."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Smith of North Carolina moved to amend the bill by striking out the twelfth section; which reads as follows, viz:

SEC. 12. *Be it further enacted*, That when it is proven that any officer or soldier was wounded and fell into the hands of the enemy and nothing has been heard from such wounded officer or soldier for six months, this fact shall be deemed sufficient to presume death at the time when wounded; and the claim shall be audited and paid as if the death had been returned by the proper officer.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Smith was lost.

Mr. Perkins submitted the following amendment: which was agreed to, as an independent section:

SEC. 13. That no person employed as auditor, register, agent, or clerk in the settling or auditing of claims under this act shall be, directly or indirectly [interested?], either as administrator, executor, attorney, or assignee, of any claim that may come before the Fourth Auditor for settlement.

Mr. Conrow moved to amend the third section of the bill by striking out after the word "determined," in line 7, the words "and amend immaterial omissions or points of evidence when satisfied of the justice thereof" and insert in lieu thereof the words "all claims."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Dargan called the question: which was ordered.

The question being on engrossing the bill and ordering it to a third reading.

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Foster called the question on the passage of the bill.

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays:

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz:	} Yeas ----- 33 Nays ----- 21
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Yeas: Atkins, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Clark, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McQueen, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Ralls, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Strickland.

Nays: Baldwin, Chrisman, Clapp, Dargan, Funsten, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lewis, McRae, Miles, Pugh, Sexton, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

So the bill was passed.

The title of the bill having been read and agreed to,

On motion of Mr. Atkins,

The House adjourned until Monday, 11 o'clock

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President: which was read as follows, viz:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Confederate States of America:

I feel impelled, by the condition of the country, earnestly to recommend to your adoption the extension of the conscription already recommended in my annual message of the 7th December last, and to inform you that the preparations made by the enemy for the campaign of the present year warn us that our armies in the field must be reinforced to the utmost possible extent.

The agricultural interests of the country must be protected and fostered, or we shall be unable to raise the supplies necessary for the subsistence of the Army, as well as of the people at home. How is this to be done?

There is no possibility of affording adequate local protection by our armies in the field, which must of necessity be kept concentrated to resist the main columns of the invading forces of the enemy. Our farms and depots can only be protected from destructive raids by the men who remain at home engaged in mechanical, agricultural, and other pursuits.

There are but two modes of rendering these classes available for such purposes. One is by calling them out as militia. The other by enrolling them under Confederate authority. I propose, in a few words, to contrast these modes.

If those left at home are available only as militia, it will become necessary to make requisitions for them on the States, in advance of any pressing necessity for their services, because of the delays which are always involved in obtaining forces under such calls. When called out, it will naturally result that the men will be retained for long periods in the field or in camp, to be ready for emergencies, as they could not, if discharged, be promptly recalled when required. This method of using the reserves will tell with disastrous effect on our agriculture.

On the other hand, troops for local defense and special service, as organized under the act of 21st August, 1861, would afford the Commander in Chief the means of call-

ing out the men embraced in such organizations at a moment's warning, and enable him, without imprudence, to dismiss them the moment the danger had disappeared. They would probably not be absent from the fields and workshops more than two or three weeks at a time, and there would thus be no serious interruption to the productive industry of the country. If the spirit which rendered volunteering so general among all classes of citizens at the beginning of the war were still prevalent, there would be no necessity for the proposed legislation, as the citizens would readily join the organizations provided in the law above mentioned. But as this is not the case, it is necessary that conscription for local defense should replace volunteering.

If Congress should decline to adopt this measure, which my sense of what is needed for the public defense forces me again to urge upon its attention, I am unable to perceive from what source we are to obtain the men necessary not only to repel raids, but to relieve the large number of able-bodied soldiers now detailed from the Army for local service in the States.

I trust that my conviction of the pressing necessity for this legislation in aid of the public defense will be received by Congress as a sufficient justification for this renewal of the recommendation contained in the message addressed to you at the commencement of the present session.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 13, 1864.*

Mr. Chambers offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the message of the President be referred to the managers on the part of the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill of the Senate (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war, and that its recommendations be considered by them as advisory from the House on the subject treated of in the message.

Mr. Clapp moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "and that its recommendations be considered by them as advisory from the House on the subject treated of in the message."

Mr. Clapp called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment was agreed to.

The resolution as amended was also agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill (S. 194) to organize bodies for the capture and destruction of the enemy's property, by land or sea, and to authorize compensation for the same.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 100. An act to continue in the service, for the war, all the troops now in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the House (H. R. 100) to continue in the service, for the war, all the troops now in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

1. Strike out all after the enacting clause in the first section down to the last proviso and insert as follows:

"That from and after the passage of this act all white men, residents of the Confederate States, between the ages of eighteen and fifty-five, shall be in the military service of the Confederate States for the war, including those who may hereafter reach the age of eighteen years: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to authorize the discharge of enlisted men who shall hereafter reach the age of forty-five years, or over, from service in the field."

2. At the end of the first section insert the words "if at the time of such organization said troops protested against being so organized."

3. Strike out all of the second section after the word "Army," in the eighth line.

4. Strike out sections 3 and 4 and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"Sec. 3. That there shall be issued to every noncommissioned officer, musician, or private who may have an honorable discharge from the Army of the Confederate

States a bond, drawing eight per cent interest, for a sum equal to the amount which he has been paid while in the service; and that said bonds shall bear even date with the discharge, and that the interest be payable annually, and that the amount of said bonds shall be payable in twenty years after date, and that said bonds and the interest accruing thereon shall only be payable to the original obligee during his life, and to his widow, children, or widowed mother after his death.

"SEC. 4. That to the widow, children, or widowed mother of any noncommissioned officer, musician, or private who shall die in service shall be issued a bond of like character and conditions, bearing date on the day of the death of the husband, father, or son: *Provided*, That the benefits of this act shall not inure to any noncommissioned officer, musician, or private who shall die while absent from his command without leave, or while in arrest for, or when convicted of, desertion."

5. Add the following independent sections:

"SEC. 5. That all persons between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five, not now in the service, shall enroll themselves within such time and at such place or places in their respective counties or parishes as may be prescribed by the President, and upon their failure to do so, the persons so failing shall be conscribed into the army in the field; and all details for provost and hospital guards, for commissary, quartermaster, and Niter Bureau agents, clerks, and guards, and for service in enforcing the conscript acts, and for all other purposes, except as hereinafter provided, shall be taken from those persons who are between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five, not now in the Army, and from those below the age of forty-five who are unfit for military service in the field by reason of physical disability, within thirty days from the passage of this act: *Provided*, That in the Trans-Mississippi Department the time for the enrollment aforesaid shall be sixty days: *Provided further*, That all the persons herein named between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five shall only be placed in the service to act as details as herein provided.

"SEC. 6. That no person shall be relieved from the operation of this law by reason of having been heretofore discharged from the Army, where no disability now exists, nor shall those who have furnished substitutes be any longer exempted by reason thereof: *Provided*, That no person who has heretofore been exempted on account of religious principles, and who has paid the tax levied to relieve him from that service, shall be conscribed under this act.

"SEC. 7. That all laws granting exemptions from military service be, and the same are hereby, repealed, and that hereafter none shall be exempt except the following:

"I. All who shall be held to be unfit for military service under the rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of War.

"II. The Vice-President of the Confederate States, the members of Congress and of the several State legislatures, and the officers thereof, and such other Confederate and State officers as the President or governors of the States, respectively, may declare to be necessary for the proper administration of the Confederate or State governments, as the case may be.

"III. Every minister of religion authorized to preach according to the rules of his sect, and who was on the tenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and has been since in the regular discharge of his ministerial duties; superintendents of asylums of the deaf, dumb, and blind, and of the insane; one editor of each newspaper established and being published on the tenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, who was owner or editor of a newspaper at that date, and which has been so published regularly since that time, and such journeymen printers as such editor may, under oath, declare are indispensable for printing said newspaper; one skilled apothecary in each apothecary store, who was doing business as such apothecary on the tenth day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and who is now and has been doing business since that time; all physicians over the age of thirty-five years, who now are and for the last seven years have been in the actual and regular practice of their profession; teachers whose schools are composed of not less than twenty students, and who are now engaged and have been continuously engaged in teaching for two years next preceding the passage of this act: *Provided*, That where the occupations enumerated in this clause have been suspended by the invasion of the enemy, and have been resumed at the place of residence or at any other place, the persons herein mentioned shall still be entitled to exemption if, in other respects, meeting the requirements of this and other exemption acts.

"IV. For the police and management of slaves there shall be exempted one person on each farm or plantation the sole property of a minor, a person of unsound mind, a feme sole, or a person absent from home in the military or naval service of the Confederacy, on which there are twenty or more effective hands: *Provided*, The person so exempted was employed and acting as an overseer previous to the sixteenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and there is no white male adult on

Yeas: Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Ewing, Foster, Fuusten, Gar-

trell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Perkins, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Holder, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion to reconsider prevailed.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Clapp,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 30
Nays ----- 41

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boyce, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Holder, Jones, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McDowell, McLean, Menees, Miles, Pugh, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, and Smith of North Carolina.

Nays: Atkins, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clark, Conrad, Conrow, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hartridge, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McQueen, McRae, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Sexton, Singleton, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Wright of Texas.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Hartridge called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the resolution of Mr. Chambers,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Chilton moved that he be excused from serving as manager on the part of the House in the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to organize forces to serve during the war.

Mr. Curry called the question; which was ordered, and the motion of Mr. Chilton did not prevail.

Mr. Machen moved that two new members be added to the managers on the part of the House at said conference.

Pending which,

Mr. Jones moved that the House resolve itself into open session.

The motion was lost.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Machen,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 101. A bill making additional appropriations of secret service money; and

H. R. 113. A bill to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus.

And the Speaker signed the same.

On motion of Mr. Swan,

The House resolved itself into open session.

Being again in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House (H. R. 98) to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government; in which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate insist upon their amendments, disagreed to by this House, to the bill (H. R. 100) to continue in the service, for the war, all the troops now in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, ask a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Sparrow, Mr. Wigfall, and Mr. Johnson of Georgia managers at the same on their part.

Mr. Miles moved that the House insist on its disagreement to the amendments of the Senate to the bill of the House (H. R. 100) to continue in the service, for the war, all the troops now in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, and agree to the conference asked for by that body; which motion prevailed, and

The Chair appointed Messrs. Chilton, Holcombe, and Swan managers on the part of the House at said conference.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the House (H. R. 98) to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government; which had been returned from the Senate with sundry amendments.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

1. In section 1, line 11, strike out the word "five" and insert "two."
2. In section 1, line 15, strike out the word "ten" and insert "five."
3. In section 1, line 15, strike out all the first clause after the word "*Provided*" and insert "That from this tax on the value of property shall be deducted the value of the tax in kind derived therefrom, as assessed under the law imposing it, and delivered to the Government, and also the tax on income derived from said property, and which may be paid to the Government, and also the tax of one per cent imposed on moneys and credits by the tax act approved twenty-fourth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."
4. Add at the end of clause III, section 1, the words "except in case where land, slaves, cotton, or tobacco have been purchased since the first day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, in which case the said land, slaves, cotton, and tobacco so sold shall be assessed at the price paid for the same by the owner."
5. In section 2, strike out clauses I and II.
6. In section 2, line 22, paragraph III, strike out the word "five" and insert "two."
7. In section 2, line 25, strike out all of paragraph IV after the word "assessed" and insert the words "in the year eighteen hundred and sixty."
8. In section 3, line 3, strike out the word "five" and insert "two."
9. In section 3, lines 3 and 4, paragraph I, strike out the words "to be assessed and collected in kind."
10. In section 3, line 7, strike out the word "five" and insert "two."
11. In section 3, strike out all of the second clause after the words "upon the," in line 10, and insert as follows: "amount of all solvent credits not employed in a business the income derived from which is taxed, and of all bank bills and all other paper used as currency, exclusive of Confederate Treasury notes, two per cent; and on all Treasury notes above the denomination of five dollars, except interest-bearing Treasury notes, twenty-five per cent, to be deducted from the face of said Treasury notes when presented for payment, or in payment of public dues, or for funding, and said tax shall attach to said Treasury notes wherever circulated."
12. Strike out all of section 4.
13. In section 5, line 4, strike out the word "five" and insert "two."
14. In section 6, lines 3 and 4, paragraph I, strike out the words "five hundred" and insert "two hundred and fifty." In section 6, lines 22 and 23, strike out the words "for twelve months preceding the passage of this act."
15. In section 6, line 5, paragraph I, strike out the words "one hundred" and insert "fifty."
16. In section 6, lines 9 and 10, paragraph I, strike out the words "five hundred" and insert "two hundred and fifty."

17. In section 6, line 15, paragraph II, strike out the word "two" and insert "one."
18. In section 6, line 19, paragraph III, strike out the word "two" and insert "one."
19. In section 7, line 1, after "eighteen hundred and sixty-four" insert "except those laid by the tax act approved twenty-fourth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."
20. In section 7, line 2, strike out the words "as on the day of the passage of this act" and insert "on the first day of April, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four."
21. In section 7, line 3, strike out the word "May" and insert "July."
22. In section 7, strike out lines 6, 7, and 8, down to and including the word "next," in line 8.
23. In section 7, line 8, strike out all after "*Provided*" and insert "That the collection of the tax of two per cent on the value of property employed in agriculture shall be suspended until the value of the tax in kind for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four shall be assessed and ascertained."
24. Strike out section 8.
25. Add the following independent section.

"SEC. —. That the taxes for the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four shall be paid in exchequer notes only: *Provided*, That the taxes due under the tax act of twenty-fourth April, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, prior to the passage of this act, may be paid in Treasury notes,"

Mr. Baldwin moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of considering all of the amendments of the Senate together; which motion prevailed.

And the question being on concurring in the amendments of the Senate,

It was decided in the negative.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Miles, resolved itself into open session; and being again in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate insist upon their amendments, disagreed to by this House, to the bill (H. R. 98) to lay additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, ask a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Hunter, Mr. Semmes, and Mr. Orr the managers on their part at the same.

Mr. Jones moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table; which motion was lost.

Mr. Conrad moved that the House insist upon its disagreement to the Senate amendments and agree to the conference asked for by that body; which motion prevailed, and

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Baldwin, Lyon, Conrad, Boyce, and Lewis managers on the part of the House at said conference.

The House then,

On motion of Mr. Singleton,

Resolved itself into open session.

FIFTY-NINTH DAY—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Hoge.

Mr. McQueen introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Pee Dee Artillery of South Carolina Volunteers;

which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following, viz:

S. 178. An act to provide payment for certain printing therein mentioned, done by authority of the two Houses of Congress;

S. 204. An act to provide and organize a general staff for armies in the field, to serve during the war;

S. 194. An act to organize bodies for the capture and destruction of the enemy's property, by land or sea, and to authorize compensation for the same;

S. 31. Joint resolution of thanks to Commander John Taylor Wood and the officers and men under his command for daring and brilliant conduct;

S. 32. Joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirtieth regiments of North Carolina troops for their patriotic devotion in reenlisting for the war;

H. R. 39. Joint resolution of thanks to Hart's battery, Hampton Legion, South Carolina Volunteers;

H. R. 119. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States of America from the State of Arkansas;

H. R. 49. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Seventh and Twelfth regiments of Virginia troops;

H. R. 29. Joint resolution for the relief of Maj. Henry R. Hooper;

H. R. 50. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Lomax's brigade;

H. R. 48. Joint resolution of thanks to the soldiers from the State of Alabama who have reenlisted for the war;

H. R. 111. An act for the relief of Livingston Mims; and

H. R. 114. An act to increase the commutation value of hospital rations.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Gaither offered the following resolution: which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That General Braxton Bragg be tendered a seat on this floor during his stay in this city, and that the Speaker of the House inform him of the same.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House entitled

H. R. 124. A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Territory of Arizona."

The Senate have receded from their amendment to the bill (H. R. 82) to grant a special copyright to W. J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzel for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics.

The Senate have concurred in the amendment of this House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 112) to authorize the President to establish additional military courts.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill (H. R. 106) to allow commissioned officers of the Army rations and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department.

The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 90) to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864, with amendments; in which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 174. An act to authorize the issue of certain bonds for payment to the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company, of the State of Florida; and

S. 210. An act to aid any State in communicating with and perfecting records concerning its troops.

The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 93. An act to provide tobacco for the Army;

S. 195. An act creating the office of ensign in the Army of the Confederate States; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, joint resolutions of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 42. Joint resolution of thanks to the Thirty-ninth Mississippi Regiment;

H. R. 45. Joint resolution of thanks to the Ninth Alabama Regiment;

H. R. 46. Joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth and Twenty-seventh regiments of North Carolina troops, Cooke's brigade; and

H. R. 47. Joint resolution of thanks to the enlisted men of Douglas' (Texas) battery.

Mr. Simpson introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McGowan's brigade, consisting of Orr's Rifles, the First, Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth regiments of South Carolina Volunteers;

which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Surry Light Artillery; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Clapp, the special committee to prepare an address to the country was authorized to employ a clerk.

Mr. Hanly moved that the rules be suspended to enable the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads to report, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 51
Nays ----- 5

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Foote, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Miles, Miller, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Strickland, Vest, and Welsh.

Nays: Barksdale, Dupré, Jones, Pugn, and Villeré.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the rules were suspended.

Mr. Hanly, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, reported

A bill to authorize the Postmaster-General to settle the accounts of mail contractors in cases where they have been prevented from executing their contracts by acts and incursions of the public enemy, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill having been read a first and second time, and the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title having been read and agreed to,

Mr. Hanly, from the same committee, reported

A bill to authorize the increase of compensation of route and special agents of the Post-Office Department, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill having been read a first and second time, and the question being on postponing the same and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the bill by adding at the end thereof the following proviso:

Provided, The agent is over forty-five years of age or otherwise not liable to military duty.

Mr. Perkins called the question; which was ordered. and the amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Chilton, the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Army bill were granted leave to sit during the session of the House.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the same privilege was granted to the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the tax and currency bills.

Mr. Atkins, from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads, to whom had been referred

A resolution in reference to increasing the compensation of the postmaster and the clerks in the post-office at Mobile, reported back the same, with the recommendation that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, and that it do lie upon the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. Atkins offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the funeral expenses of the Honorable John A. Wilcox, late a member of this House from the State of Texas, be audited and paid out of the contingent fund of this House, under the supervision of the Committee on Accounts.

Mr. Farrow, from the Committee on the Medical Department, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 164) to repeal an act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals, approved May 1, 1863, under a suspension of the rules, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with amendments.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendments of the committee were read and concurred in as follows, viz:

1. Strike out the word "repealed," in the last line, and insert in lieu thereof the following: "so amended as to provide that the period of disability therein named, which entitles soldiers sick and wounded in hospitals to furloughs, shall be extended to sixty days or upward, in which case the board of examiners may grant furloughs for sixty days."

2. Amend the title by striking out the word "repeal" and inserting the word "amend."

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Curry, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution construing an act to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the executive and legislative departments at Richmond for a limited period, approved January 30, 1864;

which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring it to be referred to a committee having been suspended.

The joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Singleton introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Poague's Artillery Battalion for reenlisting during the war; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred

A joint resolution in reference to the treatment of colored troops, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

On motion of Mr. Russell, the joint resolution was postponed until to-morrow and ordered to be printed, and, on motion of Mr. Miles, made the special order for 1 o'clock.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have receded from their amendment, disagreed to by this House, to the bill (H. R. 109) entitled "An act to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury."

The Senate have passed, without amendment, the following joint resolution of this House, viz:

H. R. 20. Joint resolution for the relief of Maj. W. F. Haines.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, reported

A bill to authorize the promotion of officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates for distinguished skill or valor; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, reported

A bill to authorize the organization of auxiliary bureaus of the War Department west of the Mississippi River; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred

A bill to repeal an act to organize bands of partisan rangers, approved April 21, 1862, and for other purposes, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Machen moved to amend the bill by adding at the end the following proviso:

Provided, That organizations of partisan rangers acting as regular cavalry at the passage of this act shall be continued in their present organizations, provided that they shall hereafter be considered as regular cavalry and not as partisan rangers.

Mr. Barksdale called the question; which was ordered and the amendment of Mr. Machen was agreed to.

Mr. Perkins moved to amend the bill by striking out the first section; which reads as follows, viz:

SECTION 1. That the act of Congress aforesaid be, and the same is hereby, repealed: *Provided*, That organizations of partisan rangers acting as regular cavalry at the passage of this act shall be continued in their present organization, provided they shall hereafter be considered as regular cavalry and not as partisan rangers.

Mr. Hilton moved the previous question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Perkins was lost.

The bill as amended was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Special Committee on the Manufacture of Salt, submitted a report; which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of H. R. 75, entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three."

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill and joint resolution of the following titles, viz:

S. 192. An act to regulate the allowance of traveling expenses of officers of the Navy and others traveling under orders; and

S. 33. Joint resolution of thanks to Lieut. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, for the battle of Richmond, Ky., and to his lieutenants so specially commended by him, and to all the officers and soldiers of his command in that battle;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Hartridge, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (H. R. 75) to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March 26, 1863, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April 27, 1863, submitted the following report:

The managers on the part of the Senate and House of Representatives on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses to House bill No. 75, entitled "An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three," having met, and fully and freely conferred in relation to the said disagreeing votes, have agreed to recommend, and do hereby recommend, to their respective Houses as follows, to wit:

1. That the House of Representatives do concur in the amendment of the Senate in the following words, to wit:

"Strike out the first section of the bill."

2. That the House of Representatives do concur in the amendment of the Senate in the following words, to wit:

"In line 4, section 4, strike out all after the word 'impressment' down to and including the word 'away,' in line 6."

3. That the Senate recede from the amendment of the Senate in the following words, to wit:

"Strike out section 8."

B. H. HILL,
R. JEMISON, JR.,
G. A. HENRY,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

JULIAN HARTRIDGE,
THOMAS B. HANLY,
WALLER R. STAPLES.

Managers on the part of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Clark called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on concurring in the report of the committee of conference,

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the report of the committee was concurred in.

Mr. Villeré, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A bill to organize a corps of scouts and signal guards to facilitate communication with the Trans-Mississippi Department; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Chambliss, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported

A bill to authorize the appointment of two additional clerks for the Navy Department; which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom had been referred a resolution of inquiry on the subject, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the term of service of the present Congress will expire at the end of two years from the eighteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two.

Mr. Gaither moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "at the end of two years from the eighteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-two," and inserting in lieu thereof "at twelve o'clock at night on the seventeenth of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four."

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered.

Upon which Mr. Gaither demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Gaither was lost.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the resolution by striking out all after the word "expire" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "at twelve o'clock meridian on the eighteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four."

Mr. Russell moved to amend the amendment by striking out the whole thereof and inserting the words

at the end of the legislative session of the seventeenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, not extending beyond twelve o'clock meridian on the eighteenth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four.

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Russell was agreed to.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Jones, as amended, Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 45
 { Nays----- 17

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Boteler, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Funsten, Goode, Hartridge,

Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Staples, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villaré, and Welsh.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Bridgers, Dargan, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Miller, Smith of Alabama, and Smith of North Carolina.

So the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Gartrell called the question; which was ordered, and the resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Preston, from the Committee on Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, under suspension of the rules, reported

A bill to repeal certain portions of the act of May 21, 1861, relative to prisoners of war;

which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Preston, by unanimous consent, introduced

A bill to provide for the more perfect discipline and subordination of the cavalry service;

which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Russell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported

A bill to fix the day for the commencement of the official terms of Senators and Representatives;

which was read a first and second time.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The question recurring on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 203) to amend the sixty-fifth article of war, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was read a third time and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 199) to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 200) to confer additional powers upon courts-martial and military courts, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 218) to amend the act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war," approved March 20, 1863, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was read a third time and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 226) to provide for retiring officers of the Army, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it upon the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Machen, the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 187. A bill declaring persons owing military service to the Confederate States, and who seek to avoid such service by removing beyond the control and jurisdiction of said States, alien enemies, and subjecting their property to confiscation;

S. 212. A bill to amend the acts of April 1, 1862, and September 23, 1862; and

S. 213. A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war," approved March 20, 1863;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, viz:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 15, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith transmit for your information communications from the Secretary of War, covering copies of several additional reports of military operations.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The motion to print the usual number of copies was referred to the Committee on Printing.

The Chair also laid before the House another communication from the President; which was read as follows:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 15, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith submit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate for an additional appropriation required by the War Department.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate (S. 192) to regulate the allowance of traveling expenses of officers of the Navy and others traveling under orders; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate (S. 212) to amend

the acts of April 1, 1862, and September 23, 1862; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate (S. 187) declaring persons owing military service to the Confederate States, and who seek to avoid such service by removing beyond the control and jurisdiction of said States, alien enemies, and subjecting their property to confiscation; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Chair laid before the House a bill of the Senate (S. 93) to provide tobacco for the Army; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Chair also laid before the House a bill of the Senate (S. 195) creating the office of ensign in the Army of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a bill of the Senate (S. 213) to amend an act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war," approved March 20, 1863; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a joint resolution of the Senate (S. 33) of thanks to Lieut. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, for the battle of Richmond, Ky., and to his lieutenants so specially commended by him, and to all the officers and soldiers of his command in that battle; which was read a first and second time, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Barksdale moved to suspend the rules, to take up for consideration the bill supplementary to the several acts in relation to the public printing.

Pending which,

Mr. Barksdale moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was lost.

Mr. Curry moved that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Upon which Mr. Perkins demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and

The House,

On motion of Mr. Chambers,

Adjourned till 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SIXTIETH DAY—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Gaither introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina troops; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Lyons, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A joint resolution explanatory of the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved the 24th day of April, 1863.

The rule requiring it to be referred to a committee having been suspended, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Lyons moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Speaker of this House be, and he is hereby, authorized to employ a page, whose salary shall be one thousand dollars per annum, who shall hold his office at the pleasure of the Speaker.

Upon which Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 48
Nays ----- 7

Yeas: Arrington, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Strickland, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Chambliss, Clopton, Ewing, Gaither, Jones, and Smith of North Carolina.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the rules were suspended, and the resolution was adopted.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House (H. R. 105) to provide an invalid corps.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House (H. R. 122) to fix the compensation for the publication in the public gazettes of the acts of Congress.

The Senate have passed bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 198. An act to provide for the organization of a bureau of polytechnics for the examination, experiment, and application of warlike inventions;

S. 205. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to punish drunkenness in the Army," approved April 21, 1862;

S. 217. An act to amend the several acts in regard to military courts, and to create courts for divisions of cavalry;

S. 222. An act relating to the appointment of a general and lieutenant-generals; and

S. 231. An act to attach the county of Noxubee, in the State of Mississippi, to the southern judicial division of said State;

In which amendments and bills I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department was passed.

Mr. Foster moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Military Committee be instructed to report upon the bill increasing the pay of noncommissioned officers and privates,

And demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 50
Nays ----- 5

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clopton, Collier, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Miller, Moore, Munnerlyn, Preston,

Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, and Vest.

Nays: Conrow, Dupré, Jones, Miles, and Ralls.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the rules were suspended.

The question recurring on the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Foster demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the resolution was not adopted.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled bills of the following titles:

H. R. 112. An act to authorize the President to establish additional military courts;

H. R. 107. An act to increase the efficiency of the Army by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain capacities;

H. R. 82. An act to grant a special copyright to W. J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzl for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics;

S. 210. A bill to aid any State in communicating with and perfecting records concerning its troops;

S. 174. A bill to authorize the issue of certain bonds for payment to the Alabama and Florida Railroad Company, of the State of Florida; and

H. R. 75. A bill to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March 26, 1863, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April 27, 1863.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following, viz:

H. R. 47. Joint resolution of thanks to the enlisted men of Douglas' (Texas) battery;

H. R. 45. Joint resolution of thanks to the Ninth Alabama Regiment;

H. R. 46. Joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth and Twenty-Seventh regiments of North Carolina troops, Cooke's brigade;

H. R. 20. Joint resolution for the relief of Maj. W. F. Haines;

H. R. 109. An act to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury; and

H. R. 124. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Territory of Arizona."

The Chair laid before the House the bill (H. R. 90) to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864; which had been returned from the Senate with amendments to the amendments of the House to the amendments proposed by the Senate.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

At the end of the second amendment add

(1) "For the purpose of making purchases of cotton and tobacco to meet the engagements of the Government, ten millions of dollars.

(2) "For compensation of agents, subagents, and contingent expenses of collecting the tax in kind on tobacco, one hundred thousand dollars.

(3) "For increased compensation of the private secretary of the Vice-President, under act approved thirtieth of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, two hundred and ninety-two dollars,"

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, submitted the following amendment to the amendments of the Senate:

Strike out the first amendment of the Senate and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"For the purpose of making purchases of cotton, tobacco, naval stores, and other produce under the direction of the President, to meet the engagements of the Government, and to purchase necessary army, navy, and other supplies, twenty millions of dollars."

The amendment of the committee was agreed to, and the amendments of the Senate, as amended, were concurred in.

Mr. Barksdale moved that the unfinished business be taken up for consideration; which was the bill supplemental to the several acts in relation to the public printing.

Mr. Barksdale submitted the following amendment (in the nature of a substitute):

That the Public Printer, in lieu of the prices heretofore allowed for printing ordered by Congress, shall be paid thirty per cent upon the actual cost of typesetting, press-work, and ruling and binding, and it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Printing to require a certificate of two disinterested practical printers to accompany the bill presented for work done, said certificate to set forth the actual cost thereof, and no bill shall be paid unless accompanied by such certificate.

SEC. 2. That the Superintendent of Public Printing be authorized and directed to contract for printing for the several Departments of the Government, except such as are provided for in the first section of this act, where it can be more speedily and advantageously done, subject to the approval of the Attorney-General.

SEC. 3. That the per cent heretofore allowed contractors for paper furnished shall cease from and after the passage of this act, and that it shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Public Printing to purchase and furnish all the paper that may be necessary to do the printing of the Government: *Provided, however,* That such purchases, when made, shall be approved by the Attorney-General.

SEC. 4. *Be it enacted,* That all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Mr. Garland moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Barksdale,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on ordering the bill as amended to be engrossed and read a third time,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed, and the title agreed to.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Lyon, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: I am directed by the Senate to return to this House, agreeably to their request, a bill of the following title, viz:

H. R. 132. A bill to be entitled "An act to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department."

The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills and joint resolutions of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 120. A bill to authorize the impressment of meat for the use of the Army under certain circumstances;

H. R. 123. A bill to authorize the payment of mileage and salary to members-elect of the Second Congress of the Confederate States;

H. R. 51. Joint resolution of thanks to the Surry Light Artillery;

H. R. 52. Joint resolution construing an act to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the executive and legislative departments at Richmond for a limited period, approved January 30, 1864;

H. R. 53. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McGowan's brigade, consisting of Orr's Rifles, the First, Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth regiments of South Carolina Volunteers;

H. R. 54. Joint resolution of thanks to the Pee Dee Artillery of South Carolina Volunteers; and

H. R. 55. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Poague's Artillery Battalion for reenlisting during the war.

The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to the bill (S. 164) to repeal an act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals, approved May 1, 1863.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:
S. 232. A bill to be entitled "An act in relation to the qualification of State collectors;"

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 13th instant the President approved and signed the following joint resolutions and acts:

H. R. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McClung's battery;
H. R. 31. Joint resolution of thanks to the Tenth Mississippi Regiment;
H. R. 33. Joint resolution to declare the meaning of an act allowing hospital accommodations to sick and wounded officers;

H. R. 95. An act for the relief of taxpayers in certain cases;
H. R. 102. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts; and

H. R. 108. An act to establish certain post routes therein named.
On the 15th instant the President approved and signed the following joint resolutions:

H. R. 35. Joint resolution of thanks to Virginia troops stationed at Drewry's Bluff;
H. R. 36. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-eighth and Thirteenth regiments of North Carolina troops;

H. R. 37. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Third Georgia Regiment;

H. R. 38. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Twenty-second Virginia Regiment;

H. R. 39. Joint resolution of thanks to Hart's battery, Hampton Legion, South Carolina Volunteers;

H. R. 40. Joint resolution of thanks to the Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment;
H. R. 44. Joint resolution of thanks to the Forty-sixth and Fifty-fifth regiments of Tennessee Volunteers at Mobile;

H. R. 48. Joint resolution of thanks to the soldiers from the State of Alabama who have reenlisted for the war;

H. R. 49. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Seventh and Twelfth regiments of Virginia troops; and

H. R. 50. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Lomax's brigade.
On the 15th instant the President approved and signed the following acts:

H. R. 114. An act to increase the commutation value of hospital rations;
H. R. 118. An act to authorize the purchase and publication of a digest of the laws of the Confederate States; and

H. R. 119. An act to provide for holding elections for Representatives in the Congress of the Confederate States of America from the State of Arkansas.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1864.*

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 5th instant, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, conveying the information asked for relative to the hospitals in and near the city of Richmond and to the surgeons and assistant surgeons attached to them.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The communication and accompanying documents were laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair laid before the House a communication from the President; which was read as follows, to wit:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1864.*

To the House of Representatives:

In partial response to your resolution of the 11th December, 1863, I herewith transmit a communication from the Secretary of War, conveying the information asked

for relative to the officers of the Commissary Department who have failed to render their accounts, and stating the cause of his inability at present to furnish the desired information concerning such officers of the Quartermaster's Department.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 222) relating to the appointment of a general and lieutenant-generals; which was read a first and second time.

On motion of Mr. Garland, the rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee was suspended.

Pending the further consideration of which,

The House, on motion of Mr. Clark, took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

Having reassembled,

Mr. Jones moved to amend the bill by striking out, in the first section, the words "for the command of the Trans-Mississippi Department."

Mr. Garland called the question.

Mr. Hilton called the previous question; which was not ordered.

The question being ordered, the amendment of Mr. Jones was lost.

Mr. Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which his amendment was rejected.

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the first section by inserting after the word "general" "and one lieutenant-general."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Miles moved to amend the bill by striking out the second section; which reads as follows, viz:

SEC. 2. That the President may, by and with the consent and advice of the Senate, appoint lieutenant-generals in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States when in his discretion it shall be deemed necessary for the command of any one of the military departments.

Mr. Atkins called the question; which was ordered, and the amendment of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

Mr. Machen moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Miles was agreed to.

Mr. Hilton called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Garland called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Miles,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Garland moved to reconsider the vote by which the amendment of Mr. Miles to amend the first section of the bill was agreed to.

Mr. Swan called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. McRae called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on the amendment of Mr. Miles, it was lost.

Mr. McRae moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The question being on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time,

It was decided in the affirmative.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed, and the title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Hanly moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered.

The motion to reconsider was lost.

Mr. Atkins moved to take up for consideration his motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department was passed.

The motion to reconsider prevailed.

Mr. Atkins moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

The motion was lost.

The question recurring on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed.

The Chair laid before the House a joint resolution (H. R. 42) of thanks to the Thirty-ninth Mississippi Regiment; which had been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments of the Senate were read and concurred in as follows, viz:

1. Strike out the preamble.
2. Strike out, in section 1, lines 4 and 5, the words "for the noble sentiments proclaimed in the meeting aforesaid, and."

The Chair laid before the House a bill (H. R. 106) to allow commissioned officers of the Army rations and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department; which had been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments having been read as follows, viz:

1. In section 1, line 3, after the word "armies," insert the words "whilst on duty in the field."
2. In section 1, line 3, after the word "service," insert the words "whilst afloat."
3. In section 1, line 4, strike out after the word "to" "rations" and insert "one ration," and after the word ["kind"] the word "each."
4. In section 2, line 12, strike out all after the word "officer" and insert as follows: "*Provided*, That no law or regulation shall hereafter be construed to allow an officer to purchase or draw from subsistence stores more than one ration a day, or for less price than the cost thereof, including transportation."

5. Add the following independent section:

"SEC. 3. That no officer under the rank of brigadier-general shall hereafter be entitled to forage or commutation for forage for more than one horse, except when in service in the field,"

Mr. Foster called the question; which was ordered, and the first amendment of the Senate was concurred in.

The second and third amendments of the Senate were also concurred in.

Mr. Funsten moved to amend the fourth amendment of the Senate by inserting after the word "day" the words "and one ration for each member of their families."

The amendment of Mr. Funsten was not agreed to, and the fourth amendment of the Senate was concurred in.

The fifth amendment was also concurred in.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled the following, viz:

S. 203. A bill to amend the sixty-fifth article of war;

S. 164. A bill to repeal an act regulating the granting of furloughs and discharges in hospitals, approved May 1, 1863;

S. 199. A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to organize military courts to attend the Army of the Confederate States in the field, and to define the powers of said courts," approved October 9, 1862;

S. 218. A bill to amend the act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war," approved March 20, 1863;

S. 33. Joint resolution of thanks to Lieut. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, for the battle of Richmond, Ky., and to his lieutenants so specially commended by him, and to all the officers and soldiers of his command in that battle;

S. 200. A bill to confer additional powers upon courts-martial and military courts;

H. R. 51. Joint resolution of thanks to the Surry Light Artillery;

H. R. 53. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of McGowan's brigade, consisting of Orr's Rifles, the First, Twelfth, Thirteenth, and Fourteenth regiments of South Carolina Volunteers;

H. R. 54. Joint resolution of thanks to the Pee Dee Artillery of South Carolina Volunteers;

H. R. 55. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Poague's Artillery Battalion for reenlisting during the war;

H. R. 120. A bill to authorize the impressment of meat for the use of the Army under certain circumstances; and

H. R. 123. A bill to authorize the payment of mileage and salary to members-elect to the Second Congress of the Confederate States.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The Chair also laid before the House

A bill (H. R. 122) to fix the compensation for the publication in the public gazettes of the acts of Congress;

which had been returned from the Senate with amendments.

The amendments were read and concurred in as follows, viz:

In line 4, after the word "on," insert "in the public gazettes."

Add the following independent sections:

"Sec. 2. That for publishing the acts of the third session of the present Congress, the Attorney-General is hereby authorized to allow such compensation as he may determine to be equitable.

"Sec. 3. That the act approved April tenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, be so construed as to authorize the selection of gazettes temporarily printed in States other than those to which they belong in which to publish the acts of Congress."

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the amendments of this House to the amendments of the Senate to the amendments of the House to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 90) to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 236. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a volunteer navy,' approved eleventh February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;"

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 134. A bill to repeal certain portions of the act of May 21, 1861, relative to prisoners of war.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 236) to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a volunteer navy,' approved eleventh February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;" which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring it to be referred to a committee having been suspended, the bill was read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 232) in relation to the qualification of State collectors; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring it to be referred to a committee having been suspended, the bill was read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 198) to provide for the organization of a bureau of polytechnics for the examination, experiment, and application of warlike inventions; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 231) to attach the county of Noxubee, in the State of Mississippi, to the southern judicial division of said State; which was read a first and second time.

The rule having been suspended requiring it to be referred to a committee, the bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Clapp, from the special committee to prepare an address to the country, moved that the rules be suspended to enable the committee to report, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered.

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 33
 } Nays 27

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Bell, Bridgers, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Collier, Conrad, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Graham, Gray, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Lander, Martin, McDowell, McRae, Menees, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, Trippe, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Atkins, Baldwin, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Clouton, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Machen, McQueen, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, and Swan.

So the motion did not prevail.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 217) to amend the several acts in regard to military courts, and to create courts for divisions of cavalry; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, a Senate bill (S. 205) to amend an act entitled "An act to punish drunkenness in the Army," approved April 21, 1862; which was read a first and second time and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 212) to amend the acts of April 1, 1862, and September 23, 1862, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative, and the bill was read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled a Senate bill (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 226) to provide for retiring officers of the Army, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with amendments.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendments of the committee were read and agreed to as follows, viz:

In section 1, after the word "command," insert the words "and can not be assigned to any appropriate duty."

Add at end of section 1 the following proviso: "*Provided*, That any officer who may be discharged for incompetency, inefficiency, or absence from his command or duty without leave, shall be entitled to a trial before an examining board under existing laws if he demands it of the commanding general within thirty days."

Strike out the second section; which reads as follows, viz:

"Sec. 2. The provisions of the foregoing section shall not be held to apply to officers who have become disabled by wounds or disease contracted in the line of duty; but the President may retire such officers upon full pay during the war, or may assign them to such post or other duty as they may be able to perform."

Mr. Atkins moved to amend the bill by adding the following proviso:

Provided, It shall not extend to any officer who is absent on account of his captivity.

Mr. Jones moved that the bill and amendments be indefinitely postponed, and called the question; which was ordered.

Pending which,

The House,

On motion of Mr. Jones,

Adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 194. A bill to organize bodies for the capture and destruction of the enemy's property, by land or sea, and to authorize compensation for the same.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Lyon, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency, submitted the following report:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency have had the same under consideration, and have agreed to recommend as follows:

1. That the Senate recede from its amendments, and that the House bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting the bill herewith reported.
2. That the title of the bill be amended so as to read as follows, to wit: "A bill to reduce the currency and to authorize a new issue of notes and bonds."

F. S. LYON,
DAV. W. LEWIS,
C. M. CONRAD,

Managers on the part of the House of Representatives

R. M. T. HUNTER,
THOS. J. SEMMES,
JAMES L. ORR,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

Mr. Goode called the question; which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the report of the committee of conference,

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas ----- 51
 } Nays ----- 27

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambliss, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Ingram, Johnston, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Staples, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, Wright of Texas, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clopton, Dargan, Davidson, Gaither, Harris, Hilton, Holder, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lyons, Martin, Miller, Preston, Russell, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Strickland, and Trippe.

So the report of the committee was agreed to.

Mr. Foster moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Clark called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

Mr. Lyon, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, submitted the following report:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the "bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government" have had the same under consideration, and have agreed to recommend as follows:

1. That the Senate recede from its first amendment.
2. That the Senate recede from its second amendment, and that in section 1, paragraph I, of the House bill, be stricken out after the word "cent," in the eleventh line, to the word "provided," in the fifteenth line.
3. That the Senate recede from its third amendment, and that the House bill be amended by striking out all after the word "Government," in the nineteenth line of paragraph I, section 1, to the end of the paragraph, and inserting "*Provided, That no credit shall be allowed beyond five per cent.*"
4. That the Senate's fourth amendment be amended by striking out the word "sold" and inserting in lieu thereof "purchased," and by inserting before the word "paid" the word "actually," and that thus amended the said amendment be agreed to.
5. That the Senate's fifth amendment be agreed to.
6. That the Senate recede from its sixth amendment, and that paragraphs III and IV of the second section be entitled "Section 2."
7. That the Senate recede from its seventh amendment.
8. That the Senate recede from its eighth amendment.
9. That the Senate's ninth amendment be agreed to.
10. That the Senate recede from its tenth amendment.
11. That the Senate recede from its eleventh amendment, and that the House bill be amended by striking out all of paragraph II, section 3, after the word "exclusive," in the twelfth line, and inserting "of noninterest bearing Confederate Treasury notes, and not employed in a registered business the income derived from which is taxed five per cent."
12. That the Senate recede from its twelfth amendment, and that section 4 of the House bill be amended as follows, to wit:

(1) In paragraph I, strike out all after "January," in the twenty-fourth line, and insert "eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and the first of January, eighteen hun-

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 17
Nays ----- 57

Yeas: Arrington, Bridgers, Clopton, Hanly, Harris, Hilton, Holder, Jones, Martin, McDowell, Miller, Preston, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hartridge, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Strickland, Trippe, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill of the House (H. R. 92) to tax, fund, and limit the currency.

Also, upon the bill (H. R. 98) to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 15th instant the President approved and signed the following acts passed in secret session:

H. R. 101 (secret). An act entitled "An act making additional appropriations of secret service money;" and

H. R. 113 (secret). An act entitled "An act to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1864.*

Mr. Chilton, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to organize forces to serve during the war, submitted the following report:

The managers on the part of the House have met the managers on the part of the Senate upon the matter of the disagreement between the two Houses, upon a bill to be entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war," and, after a full and free conference, have agreed to recommend, and do recommend, to their respective Houses the following, viz:

That the House recede from its amendment by way of substitute for the Senate bill, and that the following amendment be adopted by the two Houses, to wit: Strike out all of the Senate bill after the enacting clause and insert the amendment hereto annexed.

EDWARD SPARROW,
LOUIS T. WIGFALL,
HERSCHEL V. JOHNSON,
Managers on the part of the Senate.
W. P. CHILTON,
JAMES P. HOLCOMBE,
WM. G. SWAN,

Managers on the part of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Dupré called the question: which was ordered.

The question being on agreeing to the report of the committee of conference,

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (S. 158) to organize forces to serve during the war.

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the bill to tax, fund, and limit the currency, and from the bill to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government, and the proceedings thereon.

Mr. Jones moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the bill to authorize the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases, and the proceedings thereon.

Mr. Foster moved to amend the motion of Mr. Jones by striking out the words "and the proceedings thereon."

Mr. Barksdale submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into and report upon the propriety and expediency of removing the injunction of secrecy from the proceedings of the House on the bill suspending the writ of habeas corpus, and the message of the President recommending the passage thereof.

Mr. Garland moved the previous question; which was ordered, and the resolution of Mr. Barksdale was adopted.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill entitled S. 235. An act supplemental to an act entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war;"

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the bill to organize forces to serve during the war, and the proceedings thereon.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 235) supplemental to an act entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war;" which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee having been suspended, the bill was read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed, and called the question; which was ordered, and the motion to reconsider was lost.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the injunction of secrecy was removed from the bill just passed.

And the House,

On motion of Mr. Garland,

Resolved itself into open session.

SIXTY-FIRST DAY—WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1864.

OPEN SESSION.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Hoge.

Mr. Farrow moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce

A joint resolution recommending a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer.

No quorum being present,

Mr. Russell moved a call of the House.

The motion prevailed, and upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

A quorum having voted, the motion of Mr. Farrow prevailed, and the rule requiring its reference to a committee having been suspended, the joint resolution was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was agreed to.

Mr. McDowell introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Eighteenth North Carolina Regiment for reenlisting unanimously for the war; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Conrow moved that the House resolve itself into secret session; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. McRae introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Posey's old brigade, composed of the Twelfth, Sixteenth, Nineteenth, and Forty-eighth Mississippi regiments; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Staples introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Fourth Virginia Infantry; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Barksdale, under a suspension of the rules, from the Joint Special Committee on the Management of the Affairs of the Navy Department, submitted a report; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dupré, from the same committee, submitted a minority report; which was also laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the bill to provide for sick and wounded soldiers an asylum, to be called "The Veteran Soldiers' Home," which had been vetoed by the President, was taken up for consideration, and the question being put,

Shall this bill, upon a reconsideration, become a law, the veto of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?

The Clerk proceeded to call the roll;

And the yeas and nays were recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas----	25
Nays	39

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Bell, Boteler, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Graham, Hanly, Holder, Ingram, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, and Welsh.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boyce, Breekinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chrisman, Clopton, Conrow, Curry, Dupré,

Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McQueen, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Strickland, and Villeré.

So the bill was lost.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendment, joint resolution (H. R. 56) of thanks to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina troops; in which amendment I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Senate have rejected a joint resolution (H. R. 43) to print and distribute to the Army copies of the President's address to the soldiers of the Confederate States.

The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on the 15th instant, approve and sign the following bill and joint resolutions, viz:

S. 178. An act to provide payment for certain printing therein mentioned, done by authority of the two Houses of Congress;

S. 29. Joint resolution of thanks to the troops reenlisting for the war from the State of Georgia;

S. 30. Joint resolution of thanks to certain Virginia regiments who have reenlisted for the war;

S. 31. Joint resolution of thanks to Commander John Taylor Wood and the officers and men under his command for daring and brilliant conduct; and

S. 32. Joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Thirtieth regiments of North Carolina troops for their patriotic devotion in reenlisting for the war.

The Senate have passed, without amendment, bills and joint resolutions of the following titles:

H. R. 128. An act to authorize the promotion of officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates for distinguished skill or valor;

H. R. 129. An act to repeal an act to organize bands of partisan rangers, approved April 21, 1862, and for other purposes;

H. R. 130. An act to authorize the organization of auxiliary bureaus of the War Department west of the Mississippi River;

H. R. 25. Joint resolution of thanks to Lieutenant-General Longstreet and the officers and men of his command;

H. R. 34. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. N. B. Forrest and the officers and men of his command;

H. R. 41. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart and the officers and men under his command; and

H. R. 125. An act to establish and organize two bureaus in connection with the agency of the Treasury for the Trans-Mississippi Department, one of which is to be known as the bureau of the auditor and the other as the bureau of the comptroller for the Trans-Mississippi Department.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 134. An act to repeal certain portions of the act of May 21, 1861, relative to prisoners of war;

H. R. 92. An act to tax, fund, and limit the currency;

S. 222. An act relating to the appointment of a general and lieutenant-generals; and

H. R. 98. An act to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, also reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 106. An act to allow commissioned officers of the Army rations and the privilege of purchasing clothing from the Quartermaster's Department; and

H. R. 122. An act to fix the compensation for the publication in the public gazettes of the acts of Congress.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Jones moved that the rules be suspended to enable the special committee to prepare an address to the country to make a report.

The motion prevailed, and

Mr. Curry, from the said committee, submitted an address of Congress to the people of the Confederate States.

Mr. Hartridge introduced

A joint resolution in reference to the adoption and publication of an address to the people of the Confederate States; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the joint resolution by filling up the blank with "forty thousand."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Swan submitted the following amendment; which was agreed to, viz:

Add at the end the following: "with the names of the members of this Congress, present at the time of its adoption, subscribed thereto."

The joint resolution was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring on its passage,

Mr. Lyons demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 77
Nays----- 0

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

Nays: None.

So the joint resolution was passed unanimously.

The title was agreed to.

Mr. Elliott, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 90. An act to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Gartrell moved to reconsider the vote just taken, by which the joint resolution in reference to the adoption and publication of an address to the people of the Confederate States was passed.

Mr. Welsh moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Upon which Mr. Conrad demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 50
Nays----- 21 [22]

Yeas: Arrington, Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clark, Collier, Davidson, De Jar-

nette, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Fimsten, Garland, Hanly, Hilton, Ingram, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Martin, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Ralls, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Baldwin, Bell, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Chambers, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Hartridge, Holder, Machen, McDowell, Strickland, and Trippe.

So the motion to lay on the table prevailed.

A message was received from the President, by Mr. Harrison, his Private Secretary, as follows, viz:

TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 16th instant the President approved and signed the following joint resolutions and acts entitled

H. R. 20. Joint resolution for the relief of Maj. W. F. Haines;

H. R. 29. Joint resolution for the relief of Maj. Henry R. Hooper;

H. R. 45. Joint resolution of thanks to the Ninth Alabama Regiment;

H. R. 46. Joint resolution of thanks to the Fifteenth and Twenty-seventh regiments of North Carolina troops, Cooke's brigade;

H. R. 47. Joint resolution of thanks to the enlisted men of Douglas' (Texas) battery;

H. R. 82. An act to grant a special copyright to W. J. Hardee and S. H. Goetzel for Hardee's Rifle and Infantry Tactics;

H. R. 109. An act to increase the compensation of certain officers of the Treasury;

H. R. 111. An act for the relief of Livingston Mims;

H. R. 112. An act to authorize the President to establish additional military courts; and

H. R. 124. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to organize the Territory of Arizona."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 17, 1864.*

Mr. Smith of North Carolina, under a suspension of the rules, submitted a report from the Special Committee on the Atrocities of the Enemy; which, together with the evidence taken before said committee, was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Lyons presented the minority report of Mr. Foote, from the committee to investigate the management of the Navy Department; which was laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

The Chair laid before the House the following communications from the President; which were referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 17, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith submit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, covering an estimate for an additional appropriation required under an act approved on the 16th instant.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 17, 1864.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I herewith submit for your consideration a communication from the Secretary of War, covering an estimate for an additional appropriation required by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Baldwin, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 130. An act to authorize the organization of auxiliary bureaus of the War Department west of the Mississippi River;

H. R. 34. Joint resolution of thanks to Gen. N. B. Forrest and the officers and men of his command; and

H. R. 41. Joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. J. E. B. Stuart and the officers and men under his command.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The House then resumed the consideration of unfinished business; which was the bill to provide for retiring officers of the Army.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Jones to indefinitely postpone the bill,

The House was found without a quorum.

Mr. Baldwin moved a call of the House.

The motion prevailed, and upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Arrington, Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, De Jarnette, Dupré, Ewing, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Preston, Ralls, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Strickland, Swan, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Mr. Speaker.

Present, 66.

A quorum having voted,

On motion of Mr. Chambliss, further proceedings under the call were dispensed with, and the motion to postpone indefinitely was lost.

Mr. Hilton moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Atkins was agreed to, and the bill was read a third time and passed.

The title was agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 213) to amend an act entitled "An act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war," approved March 20, 1863, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

Mr. Jones, from the Committee on Ways and Means, reported

A bill supplemental to the act to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1864; which was read first and second times.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved that the rule be suspended requiring the bill to be considered in Committee of the Whole.

The motion prevailed, and the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 93) to provide tobacco for the Army, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 217) to amend the several acts in regard to military courts, and to create courts for divisions of cavalry, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. Miles moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

The motion prevailed, and, on motion, the bill was laid upon the table.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 195) creating the office of ensign in the Army of the Confederate States, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 205) to amend an act entitled "An act to punish drunkenness in the Army," approved April 21, 1862, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass with an amendment.

The question being on postponing the bill,

It was decided in the negative.

The amendment of the committee having been read and agreed to as follows, viz:

Add as section 3 the following:

"Sec. 3. Upon any trial for drunkenness, it shall be lawful to prove without special charge that the accused is of intemperate habits, and if the court shall find that he is of such habits, he shall be cashiered or otherwise punished at the discretion of the court."

The bill was read a third time and passed, and the title agreed to.

Mr. Lyon, under a suspension of the rules, introduced

A bill to amend the tax law of the present session of Congress; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring it to be referred to a committee having been suspended, the bill was engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to whom had been referred a bill of the House to provide for the more perfect discipline and subordination of the cavalry service, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

Mr. Jones moved that the bill be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Miles demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 22
Nays----- 43

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clark, Curry, Ewing, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Jones, McDowell, McQueen, Menees, Read, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, and Swan.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Gaither, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, Martin, McLean, Miles, Munnerlyn, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Singleton, Staples, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the motion to postpone indefinitely was lost.

The bill was then engrossed and read a third time.

And the question recurring on its passage,

Mr. Atkins demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the bill was passed.

Mr. Jones moved to amend the title by striking out the same and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

A bill to dismount and disband the cavalry.

Mr. Burnett moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Jones moved the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas----- 23
Nays----- 40

Yeas: Atkins, Bell, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Funsten, Gartrell, Graham, Hanly, Jones, McDowell, Menees, Perkins, Read, Sexton, Smith of North Carolina, and Swan.

Nays: Arrington, Ashe, Barksdale, Breckinridge, Horatio W. Bruce, Chambers, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Conrad, Conrow, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Gaither, Garland, Gray, Harris, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Lyon, Lyons, Machen, McLean, McRae, Miles, Preston, Pugh, Russell, Singleton, Trippe, Vest, Villeré, Welsh, and Mr. Speaker.

So the motion to reconsider was lost.

The question recurring on the amendment of Mr. Jones to the title, It was decided in the negative, and the title was agreed to.

Mr. Davidson, from the [Committee on the] Commissary and Quartermaster's Departments, to whom had been referred

A bill to provide compensation for noncommissioned officers and soldiers on detailed service, under a suspension of the rules, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

The question being on postponing the bill and placing it on the Calendar,

It was decided in the negative.

The bill was then engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

The Chair laid before the House the bill (H. R. 132) to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department; which had been returned from the Senate with the following amendments:

1. Strike out, in line 11, the word "ten" and insert the word "twenty."
2. Strike out, in lines 11, 12, and 13, the last proviso of the bill.

The amendments of the Senate were not concurred in.

Mr. Sexton moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to concur in the amendments of the Senate.

Mr. Swan moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; which latter motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr. Jones,

The House took a recess until half past 7 o'clock;

And having reassembled,

The Chair laid before the House

A joint resolution (H. R. 56) of thanks to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina troops; which had been returned from the Senate with the following amendment:

Strike out, in the enacting clause, the words "do resolve" and insert before the words "The Congress" the words "Resolved by."

The amendment of the Senate was concurred in.

The Chair also laid before the House a joint resolution (H. R. 57) explanatory of the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government," approved the 24th day of April, 1863; which had been returned from the Senate with an amendment.

The amendment was read and concurred in as follows, viz:

Strike out the words "*do resolve*" in the enacting clause and insert before "*The Congress*" the words "*Resolved by*."

Mr. McLean introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Fifty-fifth North Carolina troops; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Smith of Alabama moved to suspend the rules, to enable him to introduce a joint resolution relative to the pay of absent members of Congress.

Upon which Mr. Pugh demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 31
Nays ----- 19 [20]

Yeas: Atkins, Baldwin, Boteler, Boyce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Clapp, Clark, Collier, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Holder, McLean, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, and Vest.

Nays: Barksdale, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Freeman, Gaither, Hilton, Ingram, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Menees, Perkins, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Villeré, and Welsh.

No quorum having voted.

Mr. Miles moved a call of the House.

The motion prevailed.

Upon a call of the roll the following members answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Baldwin, Barksdale, Bell, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Chilton, Chrisman, Clapp, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Elliott, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Hanly, Hartridge, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McQueen, McRae, Menees, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Russell, Sexton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Trippe, Vest, and Mr. Speaker.

A quorum having voted,

On motion of Mr. Miles, further proceedings under the call were dispensed with.

The question recurring on the motion of Mr. Smith of Alabama to suspend the rules,

The yeas and nays demanded by Mr. Pugh and ordered

Were again recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas	31
Nays	24

Yeas: Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Clark, Collier, Davidson, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Holder, Ingram, Kenan of North Carolina, McLean, McRae, Miles, Moore, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of Alabama, Staples, and Vest.

Nays: Bridges, Eli M. Bruce, Chilton, Clopton, Conrow, Dargan, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Hilton, Johnston, Jones, Lander, Lewis, Machen, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Singleton, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Villeré, and Welsh.

Two-thirds not voting in the affirmative, the motion was lost.

Mr. Clapp, under a suspension of the rules, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Clerk of the House cause the address of Congress to the people of the Confederate States, this day adopted, and the joint resolution in relation to the war, approved on the twenty-second day of January, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to be published for distribution; that he cause a postage stamp to be affixed to each copy of said publication and transmit to each member of the two Houses such number of copies, not exceeding two hundred, as he may desire, and that the residue be delivered to the Secretary of War for distribution in the Army.

Resolved, That all expenses attending the transmission of the address and resolution as above directed be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Mr. Sexton moved to amend the resolution by striking out the words "two hundred" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "three hundred."

Mr. Jones moved to amend the resolution by striking out all after the words "postage stamp."

Mr. Miles moved the previous question; which was ordered.

The amendment of Mr. Sexton was agreed to, and the amendment of Mr. Jones was lost.

The resolution as amended was adopted.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

S. 213. A bill to amend an act to provide and organize engineer troops to serve during the war, approved March 20, 1863.

And the same was signed by the Speaker.

S. 205. A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to punish drunkenness in the Army," approved April 21, 1862.

And the same was signed by the Speaker.

S. 226. An act to provide for retiring officers of the Army.

And the same was signed by the Speaker.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and joint resolution of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 137. An act supplemental to the act entitled "An act to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;" and

H. R. 62. Joint resolution in reference to the adoption and publication of an address to the people of the Confederate States.

The Senate have passed a joint resolution (S. 31) of thanks to the officers and soldiers of the First Regiment of Cavalry, South Carolina Volunteers; in which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Curry offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the House of Representatives are hereby tendered to the Honorable Thomas S. Bocock for the distinguished ability and uniform courtesy and impartiality with which he has presided over its sessions during the present Congress.

Mr. Barksdale introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Second, Eleventh, and Forty-second Mississippi regiments:

which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have receded from their first amendment to the bill of this House (H. R. 132) to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department.

Mr. Chambliss moved that the rules be suspended to enable him to introduce a bill.

Mr. McLean demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 44
 } Nays 17

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Ewing, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Boyce, Chilton, Clapp, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Jones, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Simpson, Swan, and Vest.

Two-thirds having voted in the affirmative, the rules were suspended.

Mr. Chambliss introduced

A bill to repeal so much of the act to organize forces to serve during the war as exempts persons as overseers or managers on farms or plantations upon which there are fifteen hands; which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Hilton called the question.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 35
Nays ----- 26

Yeas: Ashe, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Conrow, Davidson, Ewing, Farrow, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Miles, Moore, Munnerlyn, Read, Singleton, and Smith of Alabama.

Nays: Atkins, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Chilton, Clark, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Curry, Dargan, Dupré, Foster, Garland, Ingram, Jones, Martin, Pugh, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the question was ordered.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have concurred in the amendments of this House to bills of the following titles, viz:

S. 205. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to punish drunkenness in the Army," approved April 21, 1862; and

S. 226. An act to provide for retiring officers of the Army.

The Senate have passed a bill of this House (H. R. 131) to authorize the appointment of two additional clerks for the Navy Department.

Mr. Swan moved that the House resolve itself into secret session, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 21
Nays ----- 39

Yeas: Ashe, Boyce, Horatio W. Bruce, Chilton, Clark, Conrad, Davidson, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Funsten, Garland, Jones, Lewis, Martin, Miles, Perkins, Pugh, Sexton, Simpson, and Swan.

Nays: Baldwin, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambers, Chambliss, Clopton, Collier, Conrow, Curry, Ewing, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McDowell, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Read, Russell, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, Vest, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the motion was lost.

Mr. Chambers moved that two additional members be appointed to the Committee on Enrolled Bills.

The motion prevailed, and

The Speaker [appointed] Mr. H. W. Bruce and Mr. Hanly.

The question being on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time,

Mr. Pugh demanded the yeas and nays;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: { Yeas ----- 46
Nays ----- 16

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munner-

lyn, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, and Welsh.

Nays: Baldwin, Boyce, Chilton, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Jones, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Pugh, Simpson, Vest, and Villeré.

So the bill was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Swan moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Gartrell moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: {	Yeas-----	49
	Nays-----	14

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Welsh.

Nays: Chilton, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Garland, Jones, Lewis, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Simpson, Swan, Vest, and Villeré.

So the motion to lay the motion to reconsider on the table prevailed.

Mr. McRae called the question on the passage.

Mr. Pugh moved that the House resolve itself into secret session, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: {	Yeas-----	49 [14]
	Nays-----	14 [49]

Yeas: Chilton, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Garland, Jones, Lewis, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Simpson, Swan, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Dargan, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McLean, McRae, Menees, Moore, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Pugh, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, and Welsh.

Mr. Swan moved that the House take a recess until half past 9 o'clock, and demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: {	Yeas-----	17
	Nays-----	43

Yeas: Baldwin, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Foster, Gaither, Garland, Jones, Lewis, Martin, McDowell, Pugh, Simpson, Smith of North Carolina, Swan, Vest, and Villeré.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Hilton, Holder, Ingram, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McLean, McRae, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Staples, and Welsh.

And recorded as follows, viz:

Yeas -----	51
Nays -----	9

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Boyce, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Dupré, Ewing, Foster, Funsten, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Gray, Hanly, Holder, Johnston, Jones, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Lewis, Machen, McLean, Menees, Miles, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Simpson, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Swan, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Chambers, Clark, De Jarnette, Farrow, Garland, Graham, McDowell, Pugh, and Vest.

And so the decision of the Chair was sustained.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Mr. Pugh demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 44
 } Nays 15

Yeas: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Chilton, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Foster, Gaither, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Gray, Hanly, Holder, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McLean, Menees, Munnerlyn, Perkins, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Villeré, and Welsh.

Nays: Baldwin, Chambers, Clark, Dupré, Farrow, Funsten, Garland, Jones, Lewis, McDowell, Miles, Pugh, Simpson, Swan, and Vest.

So the bill was passed.

Mr. Chilton moved to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. Swan demanded the yeas and nays thereon;

Which were ordered,

And recorded as follows, viz: } Yeas 17
 } Nays 40

Yeas: Baldwin, Chambers, Chilton, Clark, Farrow, Foster, Garland, Gray, Jones, Lewis, Martin, McDowell, Miles, Pugh, Simpson, Swan, and Vest.

Nays: Ashe, Atkins, Barksdale, Boteler, Breckinridge, Bridgers, Eli M. Bruce, Horatio W. Bruce, Burnett, Chambliss, Clapp, Clopton, Collier, Conrad, Conrow, Curry, Davidson, Ewing, Funsten, Gartrell, Goode, Graham, Hanly, Holder, Johnston, Kenan of North Carolina, Lander, Machen, McKae, Menees, Munnerlyn, Read, Russell, Sexton, Singleton, Smith of Alabama, Smith of North Carolina, Staples, Villeré, and Welsh.

So the motion was lost.

On motion of Mr. Curry,

The House took a recess until half past 9 o'clock;

Having reassembled,

Mr. Boccock introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of Company A, Twentieth Battalion Virginia Heavy Artillery, for having reenlisted for the war;

which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Baldwin introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the "Stonewall Brigade," reenlisted for the war; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, the Secretary of that body; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill and joint resolutions of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 138. An act to provide for the more perfect discipline and subordination of the cavalry service;

H. R. 63. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Fifty-fifth North Carolina troops; and

H. R. 64. Joint resolution of thanks to the Second, Eleventh, and Forty-second Mississippi regiments.

Mr. Holder introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Thirty-second and Forty-fifth Mississippi regiments; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Garland offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That persons having claims on file with the papers of this House, not allowed, may withdraw the same by substituting in their stead true and authentic copies thereof, to be certified by the Clerk of this House or his assistant.

Mr. Hanly, from the Committee on Claims, submitted a report; which was laid upon the table.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Gartrell, resolved itself into secret session; and having spent some time therein, resumed business in open session.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate joint resolution of thanks to the First Regiment of South Carolina Cavalry; which was read a first and second time, [engrossed,] read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Preston introduced

A joint resolution of thanks to the Forty-fifth Virginia Regiment; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Miles, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported

A joint resolution to correct the records of the War Department concerning the Ninth Kentucky Infantry; which was read a first and second time, engrossed, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Miles, from the same committee, to whom had been referred a Senate bill (S. 198) to provide for the organization of a bureau of polytechnics for the examination, experiment, and application of war-like inventions, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it be postponed and placed upon the Calendar; which was agreed to.

Mr. Lyons offered the following resolutions; which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we have heard with deep sorrow of the death of the Honorable M. R. H. Garnett, a member of this House, distinguished for his learning, ability, and integrity, and in testimony of respect for his memory we will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved widow our sincere sympathy in her suffering for the great loss which she and our country have sustained in the death of her distinguished husband.

Resolved, That the Speaker of this House communicate a copy of these resolutions to the widow of the deceased and to the Senate.

Resolved, That in further testimony of our respect for the memory of the deceased this House will now adjourn.

The following messages were received from the President, by Mr. Burton N. Harrison, his Private Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The President has this day signed the following joint resolutions:

H. R. 42. Joint resolution of thanks to the Thirty-seventh Mississippi Regiment;

H. R. 62. Joint resolution in reference to the adoption and publication of an address to the people of the Confederate States;

H. R. 25. Joint resolution of thanks to Lieutenant-General Longstreet and the officers and men of his command;

H. R. 92. An act to reduce the currency and to authorize a new issue of notes and bonds;

H. R. 98. An act to levy additional taxes for the common defense and support of the Government;

H. R. 117. An act to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May 1, 1863;

H. R. 107. An act to increase the efficiency of the Army by the employment of free negroes and slaves in certain capacities;

H. R. 115. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863;

H. R. 132. An act to authorize an increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department;

H. R. 125. An act to establish and organize two bureaus in connection with the agency of the Treasury for the Trans-Mississippi Department, one of which is to be known as the bureau of the auditor and the other as the bureau of the comptroller for the Trans-Mississippi Department;

H. R. 137. An act supplemental to the act entitled "An act to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;"

H. R. 131. An act to authorize the appointment of two additional clerks for the Navy Department;

H. R. 56. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina troops; and

H. R. 57. Joint resolution explanatory of the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government," approved April 24, 1863.

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 16th instant the President approved and signed the following act entitled

H. R. 75. An act to amend an act to regulate impressments, approved March 26, 1863, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April 27, 1863.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, *February 17, 1864.*

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 25. Joint resolution of thanks to Lieutenant-General Longstreet and the officers and men of his command;

H. R. 42. Joint resolution of thanks to the Thirty-seventh Mississippi Regiment;

H. R. 129. An act to repeal an act to organize bands of partisan rangers, approved April 21, 1862, and for other purposes;

H. R. 128. An act to authorize the promotion of officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates for distinguished skill or valor;

H. R. 117. An act to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May 1, 1863;

S. 236. An act to amend an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to establish a volunteer navy,' approved eleventh February, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;"

S. 231. An act to attach the county of Noxubee, in the State of Mississippi, to the southern judicial division of said State;

S. 212. An act to amend the acts of April 1, 1862, and September 23, 1862;

S. 232. An act in relation to the qualification of State collectors;

S. 195. An act creating the office of ensign in the Army of the Confederate States;

S. 93. An act to provide tobacco for the Army;

H. R. 52. Joint resolution construing an act to increase the compensation of certain civil officers and employees in the President's office and in the executive and legislative departments for a limited period, approved January 30, 1864;

H. R. 125. An act to establish and organize two bureaus in connection with the agency of the Treasury for the Trans-Mississippi Department, one of which is to be known as the bureau of the auditor and the other as the bureau of the comptroller for the Trans-Mississippi Department;

H. R. 62. Joint resolution in reference to the adoption and publication of an address to the people of the Confederate States; and

H. R. 132. An act to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Conrad, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (S. 209) to establish a bureau of foreign supplies, submitted the following report:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (S. 209) to establish a bureau of foreign supplies have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its amendments to said bill.

That instead of the amendment proposed by the House to the seventh section of said bill, the following is recommended: Strike out all after the word "lieutenant-colonel," in the seventh section, and insert as follows, to wit: "and such inferior officers as may be assigned to that duty, with such agents and clerks as the President may deem necessary, whose compensation shall be fixed by the Secretary of War.

C. M. CONRAD,
W. B. MACHEN,
M. D. GRAHAM,

Managers on the part of the House.

A. E. MAXWELL,
A. T. CAPERTON,
JAMES L. ORR,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

The question being on agreeing to the report,

Mr. Jones demanded the yeas and nays; which were not ordered, and the report was agreed to.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a resolution to appoint a committee, to join such committee as may be appointed on the part of the House of Representatives, to wait on the President of the Confederate States, and notify him that, unless he may have further communications to make, the two Houses having completed the business before them, are ready to close the present session by an adjournment.

Mr. Lyons moved that a similar committee be appointed on the part of the House.

The motion prevailed, and

The Chair appointed Messrs. Lyons of Virginia, Curry of Alabama, and Gartrell of Georgia.

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary; which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill and joint resolution of this House of the following titles, viz:

H. R. 132. An act to authorize the increase of compensation to route and special agents of the Post-Office Department; and

H. R. 57. Joint resolution explanatory of the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government," approved the 24th day of April, 1863;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 137. A bill supplemental to the act entitled "An act to make additional appropriations for the support of the Government of the Confederate States of America for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four;"

H. R. 131. A bill to authorize the appointment of two additional clerks for the Navy Department;

H. R. 57. Joint resolution explanatory of the act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government," approved April 24, 1863; and

H. R. 56. Joint resolution of thanks to the officers and men of the Thirty-seventh Regiment of North Carolina troops.

And the Speaker signed the same.

Mr. Lyons, from the joint committee to wait upon the President, reported that said committee had performed that duty, and that the President had informed them he had nothing further to communicate.

The hour of 12 o'clock having arrived,

The Speaker announced that the House stood adjourned sine die.

SECRET SESSION.

The House being in secret session,

A message was received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary, which is as follows, viz:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have disagreed to the amendments proposed by this House to the bill of the Senate (S. 209) to establish a bureau of foreign supplies, ask a committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and have appointed Mr. Orr, Mr. Maxwell, and Mr. Caperton the said committee on their part.

Mr. Perkins moved that the House insist on its amendments and grant the conference tendered by the Senate.

The motion prevailed, and

The Chair appointed as managers on the part of the House Messrs. Perkins of Louisiana, Lyon of Alabama, and Machen of Kentucky.

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House of the following title, viz:

H. R. 117. A bill to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes, approved May 1, 1863.

The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

A bill to authorize the transfer of a certain appropriation;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 233. A bill to be entitled "An act to exempt from taxation all money or other funds held by the association for the relief of maimed soldiers;"

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, without amendment, a bill of this House (H. R. 116) to authorize a further foreign loan.

The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill (H. R. 103) to authorize the issue of certain cotton certificates;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

The Speaker laid before the House the bill (H. R. 115) to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863; which had been returned from the Senate with the following amendments:

1. In section 10, line 50, strike out the word "two" and insert the word "one."
2. In section 10, lines 55, 56, and 57, strike out the words "for herself, and in case she has a family, being minor children, one thousand dollars in addition thereto," and insert the word "dollars."
3. In section 10, lines 63, 64, and 65, strike out the words "straw of wheat, rye, oats, rice, or barley, or of the stalks and shucks of his corn crop."
4. In section 10, line 88, strike out the word "fifteen" and insert the word "twelve."
5. In section 10, line 95, strike out the word "eight" and insert the word "five."
6. In section 12, line 49, strike out the word "wool."

The amendments were concurred in.

The Chair also laid before the House the bill (H. R. 103) to authorize the issue of certain cotton certificates; which had been returned from the Senate with the following amendments:

1. Strike out all of section 1 after enacting clause.
2. In section 2, line 1, strike out the word "said."
3. In section 2, line 2, after the word "Secretary," insert "of the Treasury."
4. In section 2, line 2, after the word "thousand," insert "cotton."
5. In section 2, line 3, after the word "confirmed," strike out the balance of the section.
6. Add to section 2 the following proviso: "*Provided*, That no more certificates for cotton shall be issued without the previous consent of Congress."
7. Amend the title by striking out the word "authorize" and inserting the word "ratify."

The amendments were not concurred in.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Miles, resolved itself into open session.

Being again in secret session,

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom had been referred a resolution of inquiry as to the expediency of publishing the message of the President on the subject of the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the injunction of secrecy be removed from the bill to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases, and all proceedings thereon.

Mr. Conrad moved that Messrs. Perkins and Lyon be excused from serving on the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to establish a bureau of foreign supplies.

The motion prevailed, and

The Chair appointed in their stead Messrs. Conrad of Louisiana and Graham of Texas.

Mr. Staples offered the following resolution; which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Doorkeeper be directed to furnish to all the members of the present Congress the usual number of all documents ordered to be printed and not yet distributed.

Mr. Gartrell, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom had been referred a Senate joint resolution (S. 18) explanatory of a joint resolution on the subject of retaliation, approved May 1, 1863, reported back the same, with the recommendation that it do pass.

Mr. Russell moved to lay the joint resolution on the table.

Pending which,

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 237) to release persons from the penalties imposed for the nondelivery of the tax in kind, and to reduce the amount thereof under certain circumstances; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee having been suspended,

It was read a third time and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the rule be rescinded fixing the hour of meeting at 11 o'clock.

The motion prevailed.

The Chair laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 227) to authorize the transfer of a certain appropriation; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring the bill to be referred to a committee having been suspended,

It was read a third time and passed.

The title was read and agreed to.

The Chair also laid before the House a Senate bill (S. 233) to exempt from taxation all money or other funds held by the association for the relief of maimed soldiers; which was read a first and second time.

The rule requiring it to be referred to a committee having been suspended,

The bill was read a third time, and, on motion, was laid upon the table.

Mr. Baldwin moved that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the bill to amend the tax law of the present session of Congress, and the bill to amend the act for the assessment and collection of taxes; which motion prevailed.

The question being on the motion of Mr. Russell to lay the joint resolution explanatory of the joint resolution on the subject of retaliation on the table,

It was decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Chilton, from the committee or conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill to continue in service all troops now in the service of the Confederate States, reported that the committee had been unable to agree.

The following messages were received from the Senate, by Mr. Nash, their Secretary:

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed a bill of the following title, viz:

S. 237. A bill to release persons from the penalties imposed for the nondelivery of the tax in kind, and to reduce the amount thereof under certain circumstances;

In which I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have passed, with amendments, a bill of this House (H. R. 115) to amend an act entitled "An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States," approved April 24, 1863;

In which amendments I am directed to ask the concurrence of this House.

Mr. Speaker: The Senate have agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (S. 209) to establish a bureau of foreign supplies.

Mr. Speaker: The President of the Confederate States has notified the Senate that he did, on this day (17th), approve and sign an act (S. 194) to organize bodies for the capture and destruction of the enemy's property, by land or sea, and to authorize compensation for the same; also,

S. 235. An act supplemental to an act entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war."

Mr. Speaker: The Senate adhere to their amendments to the bill of this House (H. R. 103) to authorize the issue of certain cotton certificates.

Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 115. A bill to be entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to lay taxes for the common defense and carry on the Government of the Confederate States,' approved April twenty-fourth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three;"

S. 227. A bill to authorize the transfer of a certain appropriation;

S. 237. A bill to release persons from the penalties imposed for the nondelivery of the tax in kind, and to reduce the amount thereof under certain circumstances;

S. 235. An act supplemental to an act entitled "An act to organize forces to serve during the war;" and

H. R. 116. An act to authorize a further foreign loan.

And the same were signed by the Speaker.

Mr. H. W. Bruce, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, reported as correctly enrolled

H. R. 116. An act to authorize a further foreign loan.

And the Speaker signed the same.

The following messages were received from the President, by Burton N. Harrison, his Private Secretary; which are as follows, viz:

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: The President has to-day approved and signed the following act, passed in secret session, entitled

H. R. 116. An act to authorize a further foreign loan.

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, February 17, 1864.

To the honorable SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Speaker: On the 15th instant the President approved and signed the following act entitled "An act to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in certain cases."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

RICHMOND, VA., February 17, 1864.

The House then,
On motion of Mr. Lyons,
Resolved itself into open session.

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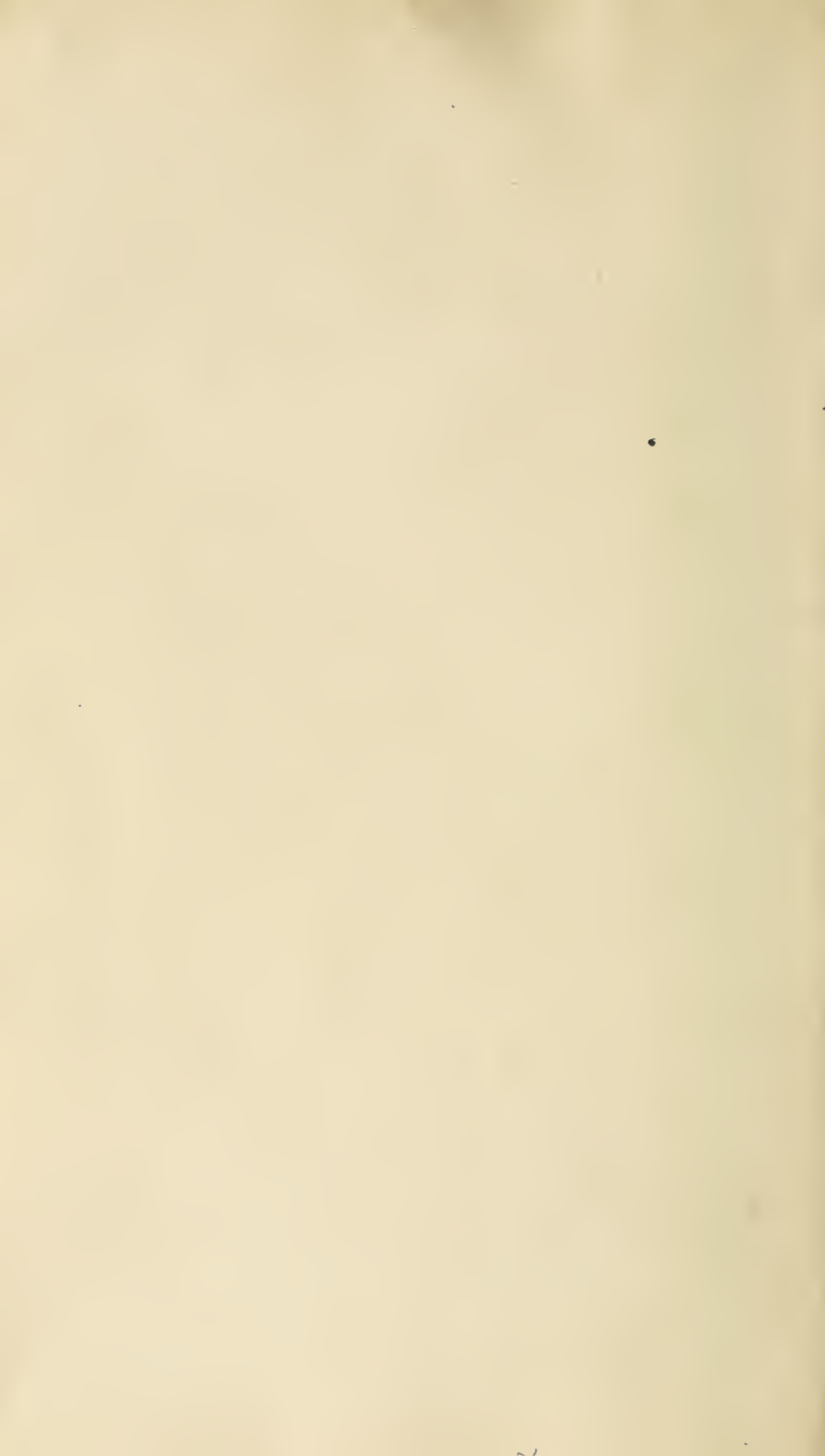
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